THE

EDINBURGH MAGAZINE,

AND

LITERARY MISCELLANY,

BEING A NEW SERIES OF

The Scots Magazine.

NOVEMBER 1817.

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LONDON.

HIGH WATER AT LEITH.

Days.	Morn.		Even.		Days.	Morn.		Even.	
Nov.	H.	M.	H.	M.	Dec.	H.	M.	H.	M.
Fr. 21	12	42	12	59	Sa. 6	12	23	12	52
Sa. 22			1	16	Su. 7			1	19
Su. 23	1	34	1	50	M. 8	1	45	2	10
M. 24	2	7	2	24	Tu. 9	2	36	3	1
Tu. 25	2	42	2	57	W. 10	3	24	3	48
W. 26	3	15	3	32	Th. 11	4	12	4	35
Th. 27	3	51	4	9	Fr. 12	4	57	5	20
Fr. 28	4	29	4	50	Sa. 13	5	44	6	8
Sa. 29	5	14	5	40	Su. 14	6	32	6	57
Su. 30	6	5	6	34	M. 15	7	22	7	51
Dec.					Tu. 16	8	20	8	49
M. 1	7	5	7	37	W. 17	9	21	9	53
Tu. 2	8	12	8	47	Th. 18	10	23	10	52
W. 3	9	23	9	55	Fr. 19	11	18	11	45
Th. 4	10	28	10	59	Sa. 20	12	8	12	30
Fr. 5	11	30	11	56					

MOON'S PHASES.

Apparent Time at Edinburgh.

Full Moon, Nov. 23. 30 *m.* past 9 after.
Last Quarter, Dec. 1. 57 —— 7 after.
New Moon, —— 8. 12 —— 0 noon.
First Quarter, —— 15. 11 —— 11 morn.

TERMS, &c.

Nov. 30. St Andrew's Day.
Dec. 10. Salmon fishing in Forth and Tay begins.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

It having been found inexpedient, at present, to notice publicly, and quite impracticable to acknowledge privately, in every instance, a number of Communications lately received for various departments of the Magazine, the Editors beg leave generally to assure their Correspondents, that, though they have been, and in future may be, under the necessity of postponing, for a time, the insertion of some of their Contributions, yet that this delay ought not to be considered as equivalent to a rejection. Out of upwards of Forty Papers transmitted to them within these few weeks, besides those already printed, there are very few indeed which they do not think would be acceptable to their readers. The greater number of these shall appear with the least possible delay; and they hope that the additional half-sheet given in this Number will be received as a proof of their anxiety to meet the wishes of Contributors to the Work, as well as of their gratitude for the uncommon degree of public favour it has already experienced.

Edinburgh, November 15, 1817.

*** The Correspondents of the EDINBURGH MAGAZINE AND LITERARY MISCELLANY are respectfully requested to transmit their Communications for the Editors to ARCHIBALD CONSTABLE and COMPANY, Edinburgh, or LONGMAN and COMPANY, London, to whom also orders for the Work should be particularly addressed.

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THE

EDINBURGH MAGAZINE,

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LITERARY MISCELLANY.

NOVEMBER 1817.

ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE AGAMEMNON OF ESCHYLUS, ILLUSTRATED WITH TRANSLATIONS.

It has justly been remarked by a very ingenious essayist on the Greek Drama, * that "it is rather extraordinary, that, with the example of Homer before their eyes, whose characters are always men of nature, each marked by his own individual peculiarity,—the Greek tragedians should have often been so careless, or so unsuccessful, in this most important department of dramatic writing."—The fables of these poets are perhaps better conducted, and their incidents, although limited in their range, of a more pathetic kind, than we generally meet with on the modern stage. But it is chiefly the interest arising from situation, that they are anxious to excite, and while they give all the effect that can be given to this species of interest, they have very little conception of that individuality and distinction of character which forms so powerful a charm in dramatic composition, and is, in truth, the great animating soul of the dramas of Shakespeare. From possessing the wonderful talent of making every personage whom he produces in the fertility of his exhaustless invention, a real living Being separated from the general classes of existence, and moving and acting before us like one of ourselves, that great poet has far more than atoned for all his faults and absurdities, and makes us almost as indifferent about these faults as he seems to have been himself.

The ancient drama, from the peculiarity of its origin amid the ritual of religion, and loaded as it was by the coldness and inaction of its Chorus, seems to have been regarded more in the light of a moral poem, than as a representation of human life, and it is, indeed, as this learned writer has observed, much rather to Homer than to the tragic poets of Greece, that we are to look for those varied and perfect exhibitions of life and manners, which are more, perhaps, in the spirit of our own Shakespeare, than any thing else in antiquity. These observations, however, it ought to be mentioned, apply much more to Sophocles and Euripides, than to the great founder of the Greek tragedy, Eschylus—who, in the drama which was rising in his hands, seems clearly to have perceived the importance of making his personages characteristic, and even while he allots to his Chorus a greater portion of his poem, than was done by his successors, he yet contrives to render that cumbersome machine much more dramatic than it ever appears in them. The sublime imagination of this poet, when he soars into the unfathomed fields of his mythology, is strikingly displayed in the dramas of Prometheus and of the Furies; in the tragedy of Agamemnon, of which it is here proposed to give some account,

* See Remarks on the Tragedy of Philoctetes in the sixth number of the Edinburgh Monthly Magazine. The same writer has obliged us with the article on the *Iphigenia in Aulis* of Euripides, at page 240 of the present Work; and we have the satisfaction of being enabled to promise our readers a further continuation of his learned and admired "Remarks on Greek Tragedy," in our next number.—EDIT.

we have the finest examples of his skill in the delineation of character, and the display of passion; and the chief object of the present essay and of the quotations to be produced from a very imperfect translation of this noble performance, is, accordingly, to illustrate the *dramatic* genius of Eschylus, although, at the same time, instances will present themselves to us as we proceed of his general powers of description, and of the fervour of his Lyrical poetry.

The story of the Agamemnon relates to the murder of that hero by his wife Clytemnestra, at the instigation of her paramour Egisthus. No sooner has the unfortunate Prince, on his return from Troy, entered his own house, than he is decoyed by the Queen into a bath, where, winding a robe around him, from which he is unable to extricate himself, she stabs him; and Egisthus and she usurp the sovereign rule. This incident the poet has brought out with the least possible appearance of artifice; but still, it is to be remarked, with the most consummate skill and judgment, contriving throughout to seize those points in the story which are the best adapted for exhibiting his characters in their most impressive forms. The drama opens with a very striking circumstance. It had been agreed upon at the departure of Agamemnon, that upon the success of the expedition, a fire should be lighted upon Mount Ida, which was to be repeated at proper intervals, till the blaze of triumph should be distinctly seen from his palace in Argos. The moment of the opening of the drama is the appearance of this welcome light, and the character first introduced is a faithful watchman attached to his master's family, who is represented as walking upon the top of the palace, and anxiously looking for the long-expected object of his watch. In his simple and natural soliloquy, we get some insight into the infidelity of Clytemnestra, though, at the same time, of so imperfect a kind, that we are by no means permitted to see through that deep veil of hypocrisy which the poet throws around her, and which is intended partly to deceive the spectators, as well as the persons of the drama.—

Watchman. Would that the Gods would
free me from my toil,
My long year's watch, which on this palace roof
I keep, the house of the Atridæ, e'en
Like to a trusty dog—and have the while
Beheld the constant setting and the rise
Of all the nightly stars, their fair assemblage
In the mid sky—and those conspicuous ones
Flaming aloft, the shining lords of night,
That give to men winter and summer hours.—
Even to this day the signal of the light
I watch—the expected blaze of fire from Troy
That is to bring the story of its fall:
Happy if that report may cow the heart
Of my bad mistress, treacherous to her lord!
O heavy case! that in my dewy couch,
While Night and all her stars are overhead
Travelling, is powerful to drive off the assault
Of sleep, and from the visitation guard me
Of dreams—for real terrors freeze my blood,
So that my eyelids never droop or close—
Nor needs there hum or whistle to awake
My drowsy senses, tears and sighs instead
Keep off the stealing slumber—for this house
Fallen from its integrity, my master's
House, unsound, alas! at core!—O would that light
The messenger of good appear, relief
To me from labour of body and mind!—
See! see!
Behold it, the blest beam crossing the Night
With noon-day radiance!—Now shall Argos rouse
Its choral songs and dances, at this chance
Rejoicing! Hola! Ho! Awake the queen,
The wife of Agamemnon—let her press
Her couch no more—but through the house shout out
The note of gratulation—for the light,
The beacon flame, if it speaks truth, brings tidings
That Troy indeed is taken!—May this hand
Soon touch the honoured hand of him, my king!—
O the foul secret!—but my tongue shall never
Speak it—'tis as a bull's weight pressed it down!—
The walls, the walls themselves, if they had voice,
Might utter it with best assurance!—Never
Shall hint from me convey the guilty knowledge
Beyond its present limits!

When the watchman retires, the Chorus is introduced, consisting of

the old men of the city, who are supposed to have been left behind when the youthful warriors of the land had followed their king into battle; and are represented as a kind of council of the queen. Upon being informed of the beacon light, she had sent out orders for a public rejoicing, and required the attendance of these her ancient counsellors. Before coming into her presence, they consume, it must be owned, a most unconscionable length of time in talking and singing; but there is much mysterious grandeur in those dark forebodings of evil which sit deep upon their souls, and which had taken possession of them ever since the horrible incident of the sacrifice of Iphigenia. This Chorus is extremely characteristic: they are feeble old men, full of remembrances and presages, which the poet works up into fine wild starts and rhapsodies—but quite inefficient when they are called upon to act. They describe themselves very accurately and pathetically in their first speech.

Meantime the flower of all the land departed.
We poor old wrinkled creatures, feeble-hearted,
Yea, children more than half,
Move, propping our weak limbs upon a staff!
The youthful juices of our joints all sunk
In stiffening age—our warrior sinews shrunk!
Such is life's dreary fall,
Its foliage withering all,
And dropping off apace.
Three-footed creeping takes the place
Of the twin runners of the race:
Like infancy we seem,
Or rather like a dream
Wandering unhallowed in the day's bright beam!

Some fine touches on the sacrifice of Iphigenia, evidently the groundwork of the celebrated description of Lucretius, close this long wandering harangue.

Her piercing cries
For pity—her soft form—these warlike chiefs despise!
Nay to the ministering priests, her steady sire
Could even issue orders when on the shrine
Like victim-goat she fell, her loose attire
Wrapping her lovely limbs—tight to confine
Her tongue, and bind her lips, that no weak whine
Might bring on them ill omen!—There she lay
Her rosy tincture vanished—like a sign
Or statue—beautiful though mute—no way
Finding to utter word, though much she had to say!—
Tears dash'd the cheeks of those who held the knife
Above that beauteous form, once flitting gay
Through her paternal hall—not yet a wife,
But a young maiden, singing roundelay
To cheer the banquet and drive care away!
What butcher-work ensued I will not tell!
Only that Calchas never was said nay—
And that sweet lady unrevenged fell—
How yet things will come round, 'tis not for me to spell.

Clytemnestra now makes her appearance, and in her firm and decided character, we have a fine contrast to the hesitation and imbecility of the Chorus. We see nothing, at first, either, that does not impress us with respect for her, and are half inclined to think that the watchman who had thrown out hints against her virtue, must have been slandering his mistress. Her triumphant joy on occasion of the great event which she announces, and the enthusiasm with which she describes the rapidity of the succession of fires by which the glorious intelligence was conveyed, seem quite natural, and characteristic merely of an ardent and noble-minded woman.

Chor. Here, then, in reverence of thy majesty,
I come great Clytemnestra! meet it is
The wife of prince or ruler meet with honour,
The more if he is absent from his throne;
I long to hear what message of good news,
At least what hopes of good have reached thine ear,
To prompt thy grateful offerings. Yet if silence
Seems to thee best, I would not be obtrusive.
Cly. Good news indeed, e'en as the proverb goes,
A cheerful morning after a dark night—
Joy greater than thy utmost hopes would augur:
None else—than that the Greeks have taken Troy.
Chor. What sayst thou? on mine ear hard of belief
The sounds fall scarcely audible.
Cly. The Greeks,
I say, have taken Troy! Do I speak plain?
Chor. Ay me! the flood of joy bursts forth in tears!

Cly. Who would thine honesty of heart examine,
Need not look farther than thine eyes!
Chor. But what,
What proof hast thou of this? Is it quite certain?
Cly. Most certain, if no God is playing false!
Chor. Was it persuasion of some nightly vision?
Cly. No, no! I take no hints from slumbering fancy!
Chor. Perhaps some rumour, new from the nest, unfledged
With truth's full pinion, may have dazzled thee!
Cly. Am I a silly girl in thy account?
Chor. When fell the city—tell me at what time?
Cly. E'en in this night, now yielding to the beams
Of rising morn!
Chor. What speed could bring such message?
Cly. The speed of Vulcan! He first sent his blaze
From Ida's top, and light from light conveyed
The message flame! Ida flashed forth the beam
To the Hermæan rock on Lemnus isle:
The island fire, successive, touched the top
Of Athos, hill of Jove, o'er the wide breast
Of Helles' sea, travelling with unchecked course,
E'en from its pitchy bosom pouring gold
Upon the waves, like to a rising sun—
Till on the watch towers of Macistus fell
The streaming radiance—nor that giant hill,
As sunk in sleep, shunned to repeat the tale—
His beacon too sent forth its blaze, and gave it
To those who watched beside the winding shores
Of Euripus—who lighted next their fires
Of crackling brushwood, (now on Grecian soil,)
And that blest light prevailing, nothing faint,
Poured its broad flame o'er all Asopus plain,
Like the full moon's wide glory—so it fell
Upon Cithæron's ridge, who thence received
The office, and sent forth another herald,
More powerful still than those before him—winging
His luminous speed over Gorgopis lake,
Till to the mount of Egiplanctus coming,
He left the mandate not to scant the blaze.
So from that mountain streamed another beard
Of brilliant flame invincible—bright crossing
The gulf Saronic, every promontory
Tipping as on it passed—till to our neighbours
The Arachnæan hills it gave the beam
Of gratulation, which they soon repeated
Even to this royal house of Atreus' sons—
The same as we had seen the very fire
Flaming on Ida—so certain and so swift
These fiery messengers—that first and last
Seem equal and the same;—these are my proofs,
The message by my husband sent from Troy!

Clytemnestra leaves the Chorus once more to their songs, which are intended to be notes of triumph; but their melancholy forebodings still prevail, and they rather recur to the wretched circumstance of the departure of Helen, than dwell upon the seemingly glorious termination of the war which that sad event had occasioned.

Chor. She followed him!—alas! in bitter hour,
Leaving behind, for her own country's flower,
Quick burnishing of shields and spears—all motion—
Running to ships and ploughing the wild ocean!
What did she bear to Ilium as her dower?
Ruin to every house, temple, and tower!
Yea, when she passed beneath its lofty gate,
Prophetic sound
Seem'd muttering round—
O city of the Gods! now comes thy fate!
Yet none could speak
Of that soft cheek
Downcast in silence, aught
That seem'd reproach!—Nor he she left behind
Forgets her, seas between,—he seeks to find
In imitative statues solace—idle thought!
Can marble features, and blank vacancies,
Flash out the light of love like woman's eyes?
And what avail his nightly dreams that bring
A melancholy joy, still on the wing?
What though he seems to see her, when his hands
Would clasping reach where the fair phantom stands,
His sleep departing, she too flies with sleep!

They conclude with even expressing their doubts as to the truth of the report which the Queen had made to them, when she returns, and informs them that she sees a herald posting towards the city, who, she supposes, is bringing confirmation of the joyful intelligence. The herald enters, making, as he advances, a very pathetic address to his native land, to which

he had now again unexpectedly returned, after the absence of so many years; and he concludes with formally announcing, not only the destruction of Troy, but the near approach of Agamemnon. The management of the poet on this occasion is very skilful, and, when aided by the powers of the actor, must have had a wonderful effect. Clytemnestra, apparently taken by surprise, and under the necessity of laying her plans much more rapidly than she had expected, does not at first utter a word, but maintains one of those expressive silences for which Eschylus has been so much admired in some other instances. The dialogue proceeds for some time between the Herald and the Chorus, who address him with—

Chor. Hail from the army, herald of the Greeks!
Her. I thank thee, ready now, when the Gods please,
To die!
Chor. Sayst thou so, smit with the love
Of thine own land?
Her. Aye, smitten even to tears
Gushing for joy!

then goes on to mention the great sufferings which the army had endured in the course of their long warfare.

Her. Then might I tell
Of severe winters, when no bird could live,
Drifting from Ida its whole weight of snows;
Or summer heats, when not a breeze would stir
The billowless sea sleeping before our eyes
In dazzling noontide ardours—I might tell—
But wherefore?—'tis o'er now—the dead, the dead
Feel not these toils beneath their quiet sod—
No murmurs come from them—nor need we weep
O'er their past sufferings—then, for us who live
Past sufferings swell the tide of present joys!
We have been gainers from them—seeing now
Our country's sun once more—after long wandering
O'er many a sea and land!—I am commissioned
To bring these spoils sent by the Grecian army,
(Old ornaments they are of famous kings,)
To be hung up in temples of our Gods!
When this you hear and see, can you refrain
Longer to praise the people and their leaders,
And laud the Gods, prime authors of these goods?
Ye have what I would say!

The Chorus at last seem surprised at the silence of the Queen; and their reply to the herald rouses her at once from her reverie, and gives occasion for a very smooth, though somewhat overdone, exertion of her powers of hypocrisy.

Chor. Though scrupulous
From age, and anxious not to be too hasty
In giving credit even to good words,
I now can have no doubts—but chief thy tidings
Belong to Clytemnestra and this house,
My joy best follows sympathy with theirs.
Cly. What can I say, or in what words shout out
My joy, which I have not before expended, yea,
Soon as the flash of flame bursting on night
Gave to my heart belief of Ilium's fall!
I credited the omen—though derided
As a weak woman, of an easy faith—
And when the wise said so, I somewhat stumbled—
Yet ordered sacrifices to the Gods—sent forth
The noise of female shoutings through the streets—
While men and women crowded to the temples
And fanned the sacred fires!—What should I say,
Or how with thee hold converse,—from my husband
So soon expecting all the welcome tale?—
I hasten to prepare me for his coming,
The man beloved.—Can there be greater joy
To heart of woman, than when absent long
Amid the storms of war, some good God watching
O'er him—she beholds her lord again
Open the latch of his own door?—so tell him!
Bid him come quickly to his longing city—
To her whom (I may say so) he will find
Faithful as when he left her—a good steward
Over his house, e'en like a watch-dog, kind
To the master, fierce to all intruders—nothing
Different from what I was—my marriage seal
Not broken, from the weary length of years!
My joys have been with him—nor can reproach
Assail my name—pure metal—unalloyed!—

Were it not that Clytemnestra had been taken a little off her guard, she probably would not have made such vio-

lent protestations. The speech which we shall see her afterwards make to her husband is not at all overdone, but is most artfully natural. In all this variety of conduct, suited to the difference of circumstances, this old poet, it is apprehended, shows quite as much knowledge of human nature as any of his most celebrated successors.

On the departure of the Queen, the Chorus obscurely intimate, that, in their opinion, "the lady protests too much," and that they do not quite give credit to her strong assertions; and then proceed to make inquiries concerning the fate of Menelaus and some of the other leaders. This introduces the following animated description of a storm, which had scattered the navy on its return.

Her. It was night
When rose at once the billows—ship on ship
Dashed with the fury of the Thracian winds,
Prow to prow butting in the storm, and wheeling
As drove the showery whirlwind—down they went—
Or scattered none knew where, the dizzy pilots
Losing their brains!—When rose the light of morn
Refulgent o'er the Egean sea—where'er
Its wild breast heaved—the corses of our friends
And fragments of the ships, were seen to rise
Bristling above the waves.—Some God, methinks,
It was, by stealth or by entreaty, guided
Our vessel safely through the perilous storm—
E'en as he held the helm—man ne'er could do it!
Howe'er it was—such fortune smiled upon us,
The harbour that received us was not either
The whirling bosom of the wave, nor breakers
Upon the rocky shore! Escaping thus
The belly of hell, the chambers of the deep,
Now in calm weather, yet not confident
In spirit, much we laboured in our thoughts
Upon our lost companions, vanished from us
Like ashes in the wind!—Whoso still live
No doubt, they deem of us, as we of them,
That we have perished! May the event to them
Prove alike prosperous!

Another choral song follows, beginning, in a very singular manner, with a pun, which, although it cannot well be translated, may yet be imitated. It may be remarked here, that the occasional plays upon words which are to be found in the Greek tragedians, and which have not escaped the animadversion of Mr Hume, in one of his notes to his history, are scarcely to be confounded with common quibbles, and have not altogether an unpleasing effect. Mr Hume says, "The name of Polynices, one of Œdipus's sons, means, in the original, *much quarrelling*. In the altercations between the two brothers in Eschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides, this conceit is employed; and it is remarkable that so poor a conundrum could not be rejected by any of these three poets so justly celebrated for their taste and simplicity! What could Shakespeare have done worse?" Now, the circumstance that these quibbles are entirely on the meaning of proper names, may serve as an apology for them. As the names, in fact, have, in general, the meaning assigned them, it is not at all unnatural, even in circumstances of violent passion, that the imagination should seize upon them, and regard them, perhaps, in the light of omens, especially in those stages of society in which very considerable importance seemed to be attached to names. The sacred history affords innumerable instances of this supposed importance, and occasional allusions, too, to the meanings of names not at all unlike those of the Greek tragedians. In the Chorus before us, Eschylus has probably pushed this licence a little too far; he gives us no less than three puns upon one poor lady's name. * In the following imitation one only has been attempted, but it is to be feared with a still greater trespass against good taste than even all his three. Whatever may be said of the quibble, however, it will scarcely be denied that the Chorus itself opens with a very fine lyrical spirit, which the translator only regrets that it was not more in his power to transfuse.

Chor. O *hellish* is her name and nature,
Some foresight o'er his spirit came,
Who first to that fair perjured creature,
Gave *Helen* for a name!
Before her steps *hell's* caverns gaping
In tempest, combat, siege, and rapine,
Men, cities, fleets, have swallowed,
Since first smooth Zephyr filled her sails,
And flying from her home and marriage-bed,
She gave her wanton tresses to the gales!

* ἑλενας, ἑλανδρος, ἑλεπτολις.

O keen upon her track pursuing,
A thousand ships their warriors bore
(Their flashing oars the waves bedewing)
On to the Trojan shore:
Where Simois steals between his willows,
At once they started from the billows,
And wove the web of bloody strife:
Then Ilium felt the wrath divine,
And cursed the hour when that perfidious wife
Mingled her ill-starred name with Priam's line.

In one of the following stanzas there is another very interesting picture of this misguided woman, of whom, in imitation of the kind-hearted Homer, the Greek poets are always disposed to speak tenderly:

And who could think that soul of beauty
That lightened o'er her loveliest face,
Seeming the very shrine of duty
Of royal rank the grace—
Could think those eyes so sweetly beaming
On every heart their soft light streaming,
Were quivers full of poisoned darts?
Ah! yet accurst these marriage vows!
The hospitable God to her imparts
His vengeance: an Erynnys this fair spouse!

The concluding stanza of this fine ode almost rises to a strain of Christian morality, and presents us with a view of humble happiness which rather reminds us of the pictures of our own Burns, than seems to flow from the clouded inspirations of a Heathen poet.

Not so the life, howe'er obscurely
Passed in the hovel's smoky gloom,
If Virtue light her lamp, that purely
The cottage can illume!
While from the gilded roofs retiring,
Where Pride with unclean hands aspiring,
Climbs to some glittering false reward—
She passes on to holier home,
Cheering the peasant's lot, though seeming hard,
Darkening the columns of the lordly dome!

On the conclusion of this choral song, Agamemnon himself makes his *entreé* in a triumphal car, and with a train of captives behind him. We see very little of him, but what we do see impresses us in his favour. He comes in triumphant, indeed, but is full of gratitude to the Gods; his head, in short, does not seem to be at all turned by his good fortune, and he is fully aware both of the envy and of the hazards attending any extravagant displays of success. He is much averse to an exhibition of this kind, which Clytemnestra proposes. In her speech to him, nothing can well be more finely represented than the collected and well acted demonstration of her virtue and affection, at the very moment that she has laid the plot for his destruction. In truth, the character of Clytemnestra is quite a masterpiece; and it really may be doubted whether there is any thing in Shakespeare himself superior to it. Lady Macbeth does not equal the wife of Agamemnon in the coolness and protraction of her duplicity; and at last, when the horrible deed is perpetrated, the burst of atrocious triumph, in which she gives vent to her stormy feelings, comes out with a much more wonderful effect from the deep restraint under which she had been so long forced to retain them. It has been already remarked, that the poet, although he gives us many intimations that all is not right with Clytemnestra, yet wishes us to be in some measure imposed upon by her; and her character, opening upon us by degrees, is much more impressive than if we were let into it at once. Not the slightest hint is given us of her intentions; she never speaks a word aside, (a very inartificial and clumsy mode, surely, of making the audience acquainted with the covert designs of the dramatic personages,) but we follow exactly the course of the feelings of those who are supposed to be really spectators of her conduct. The more that the management of the great Father of the Drama, in this particular, is studied, the more, it may be suggested, might dramatic poets learn of the true method of bringing out both their incidents and their characters. The following is a specimen of this scene, in which the treacherous queen receives her good-natured and unsuspecting husband:

Cly. Now the fountains of my tears are dried,
And not a drop remains! These eyes, indeed,
Are damaged with long watching, while my tears
Wore out the idle torches all night long—
Or if at times I slept—how oft I started
From unsound slumbers, at the passing hum
Or motion of a gnat—while in my dreams
Were crowded horrible visions of thy fate,
Outnumbering far the moments of my sleep!
O from these sufferings, which I bore in silence—

What shall I say now, that relieved, I meet
My bosom's lord—what shall I deem of him!
Is he not to my peace, as to the fold
The shepherd's dog—the cable to the ship—
The column to the temple—to the father
An only son—land rising, out of hope,
Before the storm-tossed mariners—the beam
Of sunshine breaking on the wintry storm—
Or fountain to the thirsty traveller?
O happiness to scape from violent woe
That could not but be borne! O may no envy
Its malice interpose to blight the joy
Of these dear salutations—I have had
My share of evil!—Come then, my lov'd lord—
Alight thee from thy chariot—yet one moment
Stay—place not that conquering foot that trode
The dust of fallen Troy, on vulgar ground!
Where are ye, my attendants? Gave I not
Command that carpets of rich purple grain
Should shroud the passage from the conqueror's car
To his unlooked for home?—Aye, let them blaze
Beneath his glorious steps!—Nor doubt my care
Hath ordered all within to correspond!
Ag. Daughter of Leda—leave to others, love,
To trumpet out my praises—nor receive me
With female luxury—as I were some chief
Barbarian—before whom heads must duck down
And lick the dust, clamouring their shouts of folly!
Strew not my paths with gaudy carpeting—
Footing unsafe for men—these are the honours
For the processions of the Gods: Shall I,
A mortal, tread upon the varied pride
Of ornaments like these? I should dread doing it!
Give me the honours of a man—I affect
Not Deity—nor does my fame depend
On footcloths, howe'er bright in Tyrian dye!
Thank heaven—I know myself—no trivial gift—
I seek no happiness beyond the present,—
Or greater glory—so it be granted me
To my life's end.

(To be continued.)

JOHNNIE FAA, THE GYPSEY CHIEF, AND THE COUNTESS OF CASSILLIS.

"Nupta Senatori comitata est Hippia ludium
Ad Pharon, et Nilum."

JUVENAL. Satyr. 6.

As the author of the admirable romance of Guy Mannering has rendered every thing respecting Scottish gypsies of extreme interest; it is presumed, that the following details regarding the elopement of a fair countess with the king of that dusky band, will prove not unacceptable to the generality of our readers.

John, sixth Earl of Cassillis, commonly termed "the grave and solemn Earl," married to his first wife Lady Jean Hamilton, daughter of Thomas, first Earl of Haddington. It is said, that this match took place contrary to the inclinations of the young lady, whose affections had been previously engaged by a certain Sir John Faa of Dunbar, who was neither grave nor solemn, and moreover, much handsomer than his successful rival. While Lord Cassillis, who, by the way, was a very zealous Puritan, was absent on some mission from the Scottish Parliament to that of England, Sir John, with his followers, repaired to Cassillis, where the young lady then resided, and persuaded her to elope with him to England. As ill luck would have it, the Earl returned home before the lovers could cross the Border—pursued and overtook them—and in the conflict all the masquerade gypsies were slain save one, and the weeping Countess brought back to her husband's mansion, where she remained till a dungeon was prepared for her near the village of Maybole, wherein she languished for the short remainder of her life in humble sorrow and devotion.

This is one edition of the story, still very current in the county where the elopement took place; but it is not supported by the tenor of the ballad, which was composed by the only surviving ravisher, and is contradicted by a number of those who still recite the verses; indeed, a very numerous jury of matrons, "spinsters and knitters in the sun," pronounce the fair Countess guilty of having eloped with a genuine gypsey, though compelled in some degree to that low-lived indiscretion by certain wicked charms and philtres, of which Faa and his party are said to have possessed the secret.

It is recorded in the ballad itself, that

"She gave to them the good wheat bread,
And they gave her the ginger"—

which doubtless contained some drug to enforce love. At that time the belief in the power of such philtres was

extremely prevalent; and means were resorted to in their composition far too abominable to be related here. I do not, however, find ginger mentioned as an ingredient in any of those satanic nostrums, of which the component parts have been committed to writing; but from its peculiar qualities, it probably was in request. The unfortunate lady was also assailed by the power of *Glamour*, which the stoutest chastity proved quite unable to resist, if unaided by a morsel of the mountain ash tree, an amber necklace, a stone forced by stripes from the head of a live toad, or the prudent recollection of keeping both thumbs close compressed in the hand, during the presence of the malevolent charmer.

Glamour, according to Scottish interpretation, is that supernatural power of imposing on the eye-sight, by which the appearance of an object shall be totally different from the reality. Mr Scott, describing the wonderful volume of Michael of Balwearie, says,—

"It had much of *Glamour* might
Could make a lady seem a knight;
The cobwebs on a dungeon wall
Seem tapestry in a lordly hall;
A nut-shell seem a gilded barge,
A sheeling seem a palace large,
And youth seem age, and age seem youth—
All was delusion, nought was truth."

See the note to that passage, and the Border Minstrelsy, Vol. III. p. 119, for many illustrations of the subject; but the most extraordinary instances of Glamour that I have met with, are collected by Delrio, in his citations from Dubravius's History of Bohemia. Winceslaus, son to the Emperor Charles IV. marrying the Duke of Bavaria's daughter,—the Duke, who understood that his son-in-law delighted in feats of conjuration, sent to Prague for a waggon-load of magicians to enliven the nuptials. While the most scientific of these were puzzling for some new illusion, Winceslaus's family conjuror, Zyto by name, who had slid privately in among the crowd, of a sudden presented himself, having his mouth, as it seemed, enlarged on both sides, open to his very ears; he goes straight to the Duke's chief conjuror, and swallows him up with all that he wore, saving his pantoufles, which being dirty, he spit a great way from him; after this, feeling himself uneasy with such a load upon his stomach, he hastens to a great tub that stood full of water, voids the man into it, and then brings him back to the company, dripping wet, and overwhelmed with confusion; on which the other magicians would show no more tricks. This same Master Zyto, who, par paranthese, was himself carried off bodily by the devil at last, could appear with any visage he chose. When the king walked on the land, he would seem to swim on the water towards him; or, if his majesty was carried in a litter with horses, Zyto would follow in another borne up by cocks. He made thirty fat swine of so many wisps of hay, and sold them to a rich baker, at a high price, desiring him not to allow them to enter into any water; but the baker, forgetting this injunction, found only the wisps of hay swimming on the surface of a pool; and in a mighty chafe seeking out Zyto, who was extended upon a bench, and seemingly asleep, he seized him by one leg to awake him, when lo! both the leg and thigh seemed to remain in his hands; which filled him with so much terror, that he complained no more of the cheat. Zyto, at the banquet of the king, would sometimes change the hands of the guests into the hoofs of an ox or horse, so that they could not extend them to the dishes to help themselves to any thing; and if they looked out of the windows, he beautified their heads with horns;—a trick, by the by, which perhaps John Faa could have played to Lord Cassillis with infinitely greater significance. *

It is not now possible to fix the precise date of Lady Cassillis's elopement with *the Gypsie laddie*. She was born in the year 1607, and is said to have died young; but, if she ran off with her lover during her hus-

* Two magicians, says Delrio, met in the court of Elizabeth, Queen of England, and agreed that in any one thing they should certainly obey each other. The one, therefore, commands the other to thrust his head out of the casement, which he had no sooner done than a huge pair of stag's horns were seen planted on his forehead, to the no small delight of the spectators, who laughed at and mocked him extremely; but, when it came to the horned magician's turn to be obeyed, he made his adversary stand upright against a wall, which instantly opening, swallowed him up, so that he was never afterwards seen.

band's first journey to England, in quality of ruling elder deputed to the assembly of divines at Westminster, 1643, to ratify the solemn league and covenant, she could not even then have been in her first youth; and it is certain that she lived long enough in her confinement at Maybole to work a piece of tapestry, still preserved at Colzean House, in which she represented her unhappy flight, but with circumstances unsuitable to the details of the ballad, and as if the deceits of Glamour had still bewildered her memory; for she is mounted behind her lover, gorgeously attired, on a superb white courser, and surrounded by a groupe of persons who bear no resemblance to a herd of tatterdemalion Gypsies.

But it appears, from the criminal records of Edinburgh, that, in January 1624, eight men, among whom were Captain John Faa, and five more of the name of Faa, were convicted on the statute against Egyptians, and suffered according to sentence. I am strongly tempted to think that this was the Johnnie of the ballad, whom Lord Cassillis wisely got hanged, in place of slaying him in the field.* Indeed, a stanza of the song, as it is sometimes recited, states that *eight* of the Gypsies were hanged at Carlisle, and the rest at the Border. If this conjecture be right, the lady's lover was married as well as herself; for, a few days after John's trial, Helen Faa, relict of the Captain, Lucretia Faa, and nine other female Gypsies, were brought to judgment, and condemned to be drowned; but this barbarous sentence was afterwards commuted to that of banishment, under pain of death to them and all their race should they ever return to Scotland.

The Earl of Cassillis divorced his lady *a mensa et thoro*, and confined her, as has been already said, in a tower at Maybole, where eight heads carved in stone, below one of the turrets, are still pointed out as representing eight of the luckless Egyptians. It ought to be remembered, that this frail fair one did not carry on the noble family into which she married; for she bore only two daughters to the Earl, of whom one became the wife of Lord Dundonald, and the other, in the last stage of antiquated virginity, bestowed her hand, and what was still better, her purse, upon the youthful Gilbert Burnet, then the busy intriguing inmate of Hamilton Palace, where Lady Margaret Kennedy generally resided, afterwards the well-known Bishop of Salisbury.

The print here given of Lady Cassillis is taken from a picture, the original of which is at Colzean House. There is another portrait, said to be of this Countess, in the Duke of Hamilton's apartments at Holyrood-house; but it is evidently a picture of Dorothea, Countess of Sunderland, copied from Vandyke, and naturally enough in the possession of the noble family of Hamilton, as Lady Sunderland's grand-daughter, Lady Anne Spencer, was the first wife of James, Earl of Arran, afterwards Duke of Hamilton. It would surely much annoy the disdainful spirit of the fair Sacharissa, were spirits conscious of worldly disgrace, to have her picture pointed out as that of a woman who could condescend to elope with a base-born gypsey; she who was deaf to all the charms of plebeian song, and treated her tuneful admirer with unqualified contempt, merely because he had the ill fortune to be sprung from ignoble ancestry.

The copy of the ballad subjoined was transferred to paper from the recitation of a peasant in Galloway, and will be found to vary from the poem as it is commonly printed. Some lines have been omitted on account of their indelicacy, but it is comfortable to conclude, from the last stanza save one, that the lady, though she thought fit to elope, had not been actually criminal, when her lord overtook the gang, and secured his rambling moiety. It is to be regretted that he seems not to have taken her word on that subject, albeit he cannot justly be much blamed, considering his wife's giddiness, the wicked powers of glamour, and the enterprising spirit of fifteen *valiant men*,—"black but very bonnie."

* The family of Cassillis, in early times, had been so powerful, that the head of it was generally termed the King of Carrick. Sympson, in his description of Galloway, (MS. Adv. Lib.) tells us that "the Earls of Cassillis had long since great power in Galloway, which occasioned the following rhyme:—

"'Twixt Wigton and the town of Air,
Portpatrick and the cruives of Cree,
No man needs think for to bide there,
Unless he court with Kennedie."

The gypsies they came to my Lord Cassillis' yett,
And O! but they sang bonnie;
They sang sae sweet, and sae complete,
That down came our fair Ladie.

She came tripping down the stairs,
And all her maids before her;
As soon as they saw her weel far'd face,
They coost their glamourie owre her.

She gave to them the good wheat bread,
And they gave her the ginger;
But she gave them a far better thing,
The gold ring off her finger.

"Will ye go with me, my hinny and my heart,
Will ye go with me, my dearie,
And I will swear, by the staff of my spear,
That your Lord shall nae mair come near thee?"

"Gar take from me my silk manteel,
And bring to me a plaidie,
For I will travel the world owre,
Along with the Gypsie Laddie.

"I could sail the seas with my Jockie Faa,
I could sail the seas with my dearie,
I could sail the seas with my Jockie Faa,
And with pleasure could drown with my dearie."

They wandred high, they wandred low,
They wandred late and early,
Untill they came to an old tenant's barn,
And by this time she was weary.

"Last night I lay in a weel made bed,
And my noble Lord beside me,
And now I must ly in an old tenant's barn,
And the black crew glowring owre me."

"O hold your tongue, my hinny and my heart,
O hold your tongue, my dearie,
For I will swear by the moon and the stars
That thy Lord shall nae mair come near thee."

They wandred high, they wandred low,
They wandred late and early,
Untill they came to that wan water,
And by this time she was wearie.

"Aften have I rode that wan water,
And my Lord Cassillis beside me,
And now I must set in my white feet and wade,
And carry the Gypsie Laddie." *

* A ford, by which the Countess and her lover are said to have crossed the river Doon, from a wood near Cassillis House, is still denominated the Gypsies' Steps.

By and by came home this noble Lord,
And asking for his ladie,
The one did cry, the other did reply,
She is gone with the Gypsie Laddie.

"Go saddle to me the black, he says,
The brown rides never so speedie,
And I will neither eat nor drink,
Till I bring home my Ladie."

He wandred high, he wandred low,
He wandred late and early,
Untill he came to that wan water,
And there he spied his Ladie.

"O wilt thou go home, my hinny and my heart,
O wilt thou go home, my dearie,
And I'll close thee in a close room
Where no man shall come near thee?"

"I will not go home, my hinny and my heart,
I will not go home, my dearie,
If I have brewn good beer I will drink of the same,
And my Lord shall nae mair come near me.

"But I will swear by the moon and the stars,
And the sun that shines so clearly,
That I am as free of the gypsie gang
As the hour my mother did bear me."

They were fifteen valiant men,
Black, but very bonny,
And they lost all their lives for one—
The Earl of Cassillis' Ladie.

ANECDOTES, HISTORICAL, LITERARY, AND MISCELLANEOUS.

[This series of Anecdotes, collected by an eminent literary character now abroad, will be continued in our following Numbers.—*Edit.*]

I.—*Joannes Duns Scotus.*

THE literary world has its fashions and follies as well as the ethical. It was once the fashion to publish catalogues of imaginary or borrowed authors, in order to glorify one's country by those vain banners which the first sharp gale of criticism tore in pieces. The writers did not perceive, that, far from conferring honour on their country, they only excited doubts concerning its just pretensions, as the stars of truth were concealed by the clouds of falsehood.

In this way Dempster and others have rather obscured the literary merits of Scotland, and even the learned continue to doubt concerning the birth-place of the celebrated subject of this article; but I hope to evince, from the very concessions of a dissenter, that he was a native of Scotland.

The Latin life of John of Dunse, by Wading, an Irishman, historiographer of the Friar's Minors, (Mons, 1644, 8vo,) is an uncommon book. I have read it with great patience and attention, and the most rigid impartiality. Wading is anxious, in the mistaken notions of these times, to make our literary hero an Irishman, but is not a little embarrassed to find a town called *Duns* in Ireland. He takes a wide field when he supposes *some town* called *Dun* in the "northern part of Ireland." The English advocates have little more plausibility when they speak of a place called Dunstane in Northumberland; for why contract such a short name into *Duns*, as they pretend? Truth is always simple, and what more simple than to assume *Duns* or *Dunse*, a well known town in the south of Scotland? What more clear when our first authentic notices represent him as a boy conducted by two friars to Dumfries, a town in an adjoining county?

But the importance and singularity of the question demand further illustrations. The reader will remember the former fame of our hero thus trumpeted and drummed by a learned cardinal:—"Among all the scholastic doctors, I must regard Johannes Duns Scotus as a splendid sun obscuring all the stars of heaven, by the piercing acuteness of his genius; by the subtlety and the depth of the most wide, the most hidden, the most wonderful learning, this most subtle doctor surpasses all others, and, in my opinion, yields to no writer of any age. His productions, the admiration and despair even of the most learned among the learned, being of such extreme acuteness, that they exercise, excite, and sharpen even the brightest talents to a more sublime knowledge of divine objects, it is no wonder that the most profound writers join in one voice, *that this Scot, beyond all controversy, surpasses not only the contemporary theologians, but even the greatest of ancient or modern times, in the sublimity of his genius and the immensity of his learning.* This subtile doctor was the founder of the grand and most noble sect of the Scotists, which, solely guided by his doctrine, has so zealously taught,

defended, amplified, and diffused it, that, being spread all over the world, it is regarded as the most illustrious of all. From this sect, like heroes from the Trojan horse, many princes of science have proceeded, whose labour in teaching has explained many difficulties, and whose industry in writing has so much adorned and enlarged theological learning, that no further accession can be expected or desired."

It is unnecessary to add the other testimonies of cardinals and divines to be found in Wading's work; and it is more essential, in these days, to add, that Julius Cæsar Scaliger acknowledges, that it was in the perusal of John of Dunse that he acquired the subtlety of discussion which he displays. Nay Cardan, among the earliest of modern philosophers, and who, free from the yoke of Aristotle, displays an independent spirit of investigation, confers on our hero the high honour of classing him among his chosen twelve masters of profound and subtle sciences. As this morsel is one of the most interesting in his great work *De Subtilitate*, it is no digression (nor is digression foreign to our desultory design) to abstract it. *

1. Archimedes, writings and machines.

2. Ptolemy, astronomy and grand system of the world.

3. Aristotle, exact logic, natural history of animals, written with wonderful sagacity.

4. In this rank stand as equals Euclid, John of Dunse, and Suinshed, the English author of the *Calculator*, of which there are many editions in the early age of printing.

5. John of Dunse, called Scotus, says Cardan, from his country, whose learning only yields to his subtle genius.

6. Of the same island, he adds, that is, Great Britain, was Suinshed, the great calculator, who is said to have weeped in his old age, because he could not understand his own chapter *De Actione Mutua*, and whose solution has embarrassed succeeding ages. "Thus, under a wintry climate, has Britain produced two men of surprising talents."

7. Apollonius Pergæus, conic elements.

8. Archytas of Tarentum, mathematics.

9. Mahmud Ben Musa, algebra.

10. Alchindi, also an Arab.

11. Heber of Spain, astronomy.

12. Galen, medicine.

Such being the fame of our countryman, it is no wonder that even divine honours were accorded. For, though Dempster be a bad authority, yet he may surely be credited, when he repeats a respectable testimony, and in which he was liable to the instant contradiction of many living witnesses. He produces Gilbert Brown, abbot of Sweetheart, (a monastery of which there are considerable remains in a romantic situation under the granitic mountain of Criffel, near Dumfries,) as his informer, that at Dumfries John of Dunse was reputed a saint, and had his day and office in the ecclesiastical kalendar. It is well known, that many bishopricks, and even churches, had distinct rituals and observances.

But to proceed to our positive testimonies concerning the native place of our hero. They are candidly added by the friars of Mons in Hainault, in this edition of Wading's Life, originally published, as appears in his Annals of the Minors, Vol. III. under the years 1304, 1308. These additions (p. 137) shall be translated literally, that the reader may judge for himself.

"Some infer that the acute genius of Scotus was inborn. Father Ildephonsus Brizenus, (*in Appar.* § 2.) from Ferchius, (*Vita Scoti*, c. 20.) and the latter from Gilbert Brown, (*Hist. Eccles.*) relate, that 'Scotus occupied on a farm, and, though the son of a rich man, employed in keeping sheep, according to the custom of his country, that youth may not become vicious from idleness, was met by two Franciscan friars begging as usual for their monastery. Being favourably received by his father's hospitality, they began to instruct the boy by the repetition of the Lord's Prayer, as they found him ignorant of the principles of piety; and he was so apt a scholar as to repeat it at once. The friars, surprised at such docility, which they regarded as a prodigy, prevailed on the father, though the mother warmly and loudly opposed, to permit them to lead the boy to Dumfries, where he was soon after shorn as

* Lib. xvi.

a novice, and presented to our holy father, St Francis; and some say that he then assumed his profession as a friar.' Such are the words of Brizenus."

"Nor must a wonderful circumstance be omitted, which, with Brizenus, we transcribe from Ferchius, (c. 5.) that we may obtain the greater credit. 'Hence it appears, that the Holy Virgin granted to Dunse innocence of life, modesty of manners, complete faith, continence, piety, and wisdom. That Paul might not be elated by great revelations, he suffered the blows of Satan; that the subtile doctor might not be inflated by the gifts of the mother of Christ, he was forced to suffer the tribulation of captivity, by a fierce enemy. Gold is tried by the furnace, and the just man by temptation. Edward I. King of England, from the length of his legs, called *Longs Kanks*, (Longshanks,) had cruelly invaded Scotland, leaving no monument of ancient majesty that he did not seize or destroy, leading to death, or to jail, the most noble and learned men of the country. Among them were twelve friars; and that he might experience the dreadful slaughter and bitter captivity of his country, John of Dunse suffered a miserable servitude;' thus imitating the apostle in the graces of God, and the chains he endured."

Being delivered, he studied and taught at Oxford about the year 1300, as appears from his own writings carefully adduced by Wading; and from the same authority, he was a professor at Paris in 1304, whence he was called to Cologne, where he died in 1308. The fables concerning his death are well refuted by Wading; but even these fables lead to an idea, that he was in the prime of life, but exhausted by vast studies. Supposing him about 40 years of age, he was born about 1268.

He may be regarded as the father of philosophical and theological learning in Scotland. An account of his life and labours would embrace the history of scholastic philosophy then in its *acme*, and might be rendered very interesting, as the history of the aberrations of the human mind is as curious as that of its exertions. But as his works fill several folio volumes, much skill in metaphysics would be required, as well as great patience and labour.

To return, (for the sole object of this little discussion is to prove, that Dunse was a native of Scotland,) some other points remain to be briefly considered. It is well known, that the word *Dunce*, immortalized by Pope's Dunciad, is derived from this celebrated writer; as a stupid student was ironically hailed as another Dunce. This popular joke is clearly preserved in the name of our Scottish village, while we defy all England and Ireland to produce a *Dunse*.

As to Gilbert Brown's ecclesiastic history, it perhaps only related to his Monastery of Sweetheart; and it is well known that printing being little known in Scotland till about 1580, many works remained in MS. and have thus unfortunately perished. But the events of Dunse's youth being totally unknown to English and Irish story and tradition, the presumption that he was a native of Scotland becomes very cogent, however the testimonies may be undervalued.

When Wading attempts to prove Dunse an Irishman, he says the ancient *Scotia* was Ireland, which is very true. But that appellation ceased in Great Britain about the middle of the eleventh century, and all over Europe by the end of the twelfth at farthest. Scotland, and the kings of Scotland, were not only known in Flanders, France, and Italy, by marriages with foreign princesses and ecclesiastic dispensations, but even in Hungary. Who can dream that a *Scotus* of the fourteenth century was not a native of Scotland? Paris and Cologne, which classed with Oxford among the first universities of Europe, the very shrines of learning and accuracy, could not in 1308 distinguish between a *Hibernus* and a *Scotus!* Impossible! Ridiculous!

It must be farther observed, that even when Dunse was born, surnames had become not uncommon. I have not Prynne by me, but in the roll of those of Scotland who paid a forced homage to Edward I. in 1298, there are many surnames. I believe there are even one or two *Dunses*. *Johannes de Duns Scotus* is the fixt denomination of our hero, including his surname and nation, so that the claim of England is alike groundless.

Paris, Oct. 1817. J. P.

ON MAKING BREAD FROM WOOD.

We may admit it as an axiom in political economy, that the population of a state will adapt itself to the means of subsistence. But, as the amount of these varies from the operation of a variety of circumstances, we should often be exposed to all the miseries of famine, if there were not causes compensating the natural effects of the constantly fluctuating supply of food. In years of plenty, the excessive increase of population, which should naturally follow, is checked by the waste, which arises from cheapness, and by the speculation of merchants who export the surplus, or store it to meet contingent demands. In years of scarcity, starvation is prevented by the economy in the use of food, which is the effect of its dearness, and by the same speculative spirit of merchants who now dispose of their stored surplus, and import grain and provisions from other countries. By these means the balance between the population and supply of food is preserved, in most years, without great inconvenience. But in extraordinary cases, where the quantity of food is altogether insufficient for the wants of the people, extraordinary means of supply must be resorted to, and of these the most obvious and most efficient is the using as food of articles which are at other times rejected, such as the flesh of animals not commonly eaten, the horse, rat, frog, &c. or the parts not commonly used as food, the liver, lungs, and brain of the larger animals, and the whole blood and fat; also vegetables, and parts of vegetables not in common use. Indeed, the parts of animals and vegetables consist chiefly of those elementary principles which are essentially nutritious; but, beside those articles which we reject from mere prejudice, some are not eaten because they are poisonous or unwholesome, such as the poisonous fish of the West Indies, and some kinds of shell-fish, all diseased animals, and many vegetables; or because they are disgusting and disagreeable when eaten in any quantity, such as the whale, and other coarse fishes, and strong oils and fats; or because the compactness of their aggregation prevents them from being dissolved or digested in the stomach. Of this last description are most kinds of wood and bark, and woody fibre in general; and, as these are produced in great abundance in some countries, where food is always scarce, and in sufficient quantity in almost every country; when threatened with famine, it becomes a problem of great importance to discover the means of rendering them alimentary, at least so far as to assist in supporting the people until the danger of famine is at an end.

This has been attempted by Professor Autenrieth of Tubingen in regard to wood, and with considerable success. He considered that two circumstances chiefly rendered wood unfit for food, the foreign matters always mixed with the woody fibre, and the compact aggregation of the fibre itself. The former was to be overcome by rejecting those woods which naturally contain most foreign matter, such as the fir, on account of its resin, and the oak on account of its astringency; and by removing every thing that water can dissolve. He, therefore, preferred for his experiments those woods which have little taste or smell, and chiefly used the birch and beech, although the latter is less fit for the purpose on account of its much greater compactness.

To render wood alimentary, it is necessary to reduce it to a state of extremely minute division, not merely into very fine fibres, but to a real powder. It also requires the repeated action of the heat of an oven, by which means it is not only better fitted for being ground, but probably also undergoes some internal change which renders it more digestible, as is evidently the case in regard to coffee. Wood prepared in this way acquires the smell and taste of corn flour. It, however, is never white, but always yellowish. It also agrees with corn flour in this, that it does not ferment without the addition of some leaven, and in this case sour leaven of corn flour is the best. With this it makes a perfectly uniform and spongy bread, like common brown bread, and when it is thoroughly baked, and has much crust, it has a much better taste of bread than what in times of scarcity is prepared of bran and husks of corn.

To make wood flour in perfection, the wood, after being thoroughly stripped of its bark, is to be sawed

transversely into disks of about an inch in diameter. The saw-dust is to be preserved, and the disks to be beaten to fibres in a pounding-mill. The fibres and saw-dust, mixed together, are next to be deprived of every thing harsh and bitter which is soluble in water, by boiling them in a large quantity of water, where fuel is abundant, or by subjecting them for a longer time to the action of cold water, which is easily done by inclosing them in a strong sack, which they only half fill, and beating the sack with a stick, or treading it with the feet, in a rivulet of clear water. The whole is now to be completely dried, either in the sun or by fire, and repeatedly ground in a flour-mill, till it pass through the boulting cloth.

This ground wood is next to be baked into small flat cakes, with water rendered slightly mucilaginous, by the addition of some decoction of linseed, mallow stalks and leaves, lime-tree bark, or any other such substance. Professor Autenrieth prefers marsh-mallow roots, of which one ounce renders eighteen quarts of water sufficiently mucilaginous, and these serve to form four pounds and a half of wood flour into cakes. These cakes are to be baked until they are quite dry, and become of a brownish yellow colour on the surface. After this they are to be broken to pieces, and again ground repeatedly, until the flour pass through a fine boulting cloth; and upon the fineness of the flour does its fitness to make bread depend. The flour of a soft wood, such as birch, is sufficiently prepared by the process as described; but the flour of a hard wood, such as beech, requires the steps of baking and grinding to be repeated.

That the wood thus prepared is altered in its nature, and rendered soluble, is proved by the quantity of real starch that is obtained from it by the same process by which it is separated from wheat flour. If wood flour, tied up in fine linen, be long kneaded in a vessel of water, the water is rendered milky, and deposits slowly a quantity of starch, which, with boiling water, forms a thick, tough, trembling, tenacious jelly, like that of wheat starch; and it is only necessary to see this starch to be satisfied that the wood flour is soluble and nutritious. This starch cannot be ascribed to the mucilaginous matter added to the ground wood previous to its being baked, as the added mucilage does not amount to more than the one hundred and forty-fifth part of the wood, whereas the wood flour loses about half its weight by the separation of the starch. The residuum remaining in the linen seems to be woody fibres unchanged, which have not been ground sufficiently fine.

Professor Autenrieth next tried the nutritious effects of wood flour on animals; and for this purpose, after confining a young dog a whole day with only water, a gruel of indifferently-prepared wood flour, salt, and water, was set before him. At first he ate very little of it, and in the evening was very weak, having nearly fasted for twenty-four hours. During the night he had ate a good deal of his gruel, and was in the morning lively. He now got as much gruel as he could eat four times a-day; and in a few days he seemed to be quite reconciled to his new diet, and at the end of seven days was perfectly well, and even seemed to have grown. He was then hanged, one hour and a half after a full meal, to ascertain the fact of digestion by dissection; but it was scarcely begun, although a few lacteals were distinctly visible. Two pigs have been since fed upon it.

Professor Autenrieth and his family next tried it themselves, in the form of gruels or soup, dumplings and pancakes, all made with as little of any other ingredients as possible; and, although they ate these preparations to satiety, they found them palatable, and suffered no inconvenience from them. The addition of milk, on being fried with some fat, greatly improves the cookery of wood flour.

Wood flour does not ferment so readily as wheaten flour; but Professor Autenrieth found fifteen pounds of birch-wood flour, with three pounds of sour wheat leaven, and two pounds of wheat flour, mixed up with eight measures of new milk, yielded thirty-six pounds of very good bread. The best mode of preparing it was to mix up the five pounds of wheat leaven and flour, with a proportion of the wood flour and milk to a preparatory dough; let it stand for some hours in a moderately warm place to rise, and then to knead in thoroughly the rest of the wood flour and milk. This dough is rolled out into thin cakes,

allowed to stand in a warm place to rise, for a longer time than wheat flour requires; and, lastly, to be put into the oven, and baked thoroughly.

Professor Autenrieth made the following experiment with this bread:—He ate a quarter of a pound of it with weak coffee to breakfast. The more bread he ate the rougher it became, and somewhat constringed the throat, but was not bitter. The last bit, which, on that account, he chewed little, was unpleasant, and afterwards his stomach was oppressed, and he was convinced that the continued use of wood bread alone would have injured him. But, at mid-day, his appetite had returned, and he ate of several kinds of soup made with this flour, with some other preparations of it, without any inconvenience. In the evening he ate another quarter of a pound of the bread, with some milk, without any dislike or oppression at his stomach. He slept well, and was next morning in his usual health.

From these experiments, it is obvious, that in cases of necessity wood may be made to furnish a considerable quantity of nourishment, but it is no less obvious, that the process is so troublesome and expensive, that it never can become an article of food, except when there is an absolute scarcity of provision. On such occasions, the labour is of very secondary importance; and, at any rate, cannot be so profitably applied as in procuring the means of sustenance.

In some districts of Norway, especially in Tryssild and the mountainous part of Oesterdale, bread is made of the bark of trees, and seems to be even less palatable than bread of wood flour. Its preparation is also difficult, but proceeds upon a different principle, as its nutritious property depends entirely upon the mucilage which exists in the bark, and, therefore, the bitterness and astringency cannot be removed, as in the case of wood, by the action of water. On the other hand, as nutritious matter exists ready developed in the bark, it is not necessary to grind it so very minutely to convert an otherwise indigestible substance into nourishment.

The very accurate observer, Von Buch,* has given the best account of the manner of preparing bark-bread. "When the young and vigorous fir-trees are felled, to the great injury of the woods, the tree is stripped of its bark for its whole length; the outer part is carefully peeled from the bark; the deeper interior covering is then shaved off, and nothing remains but the innermost rind, which is extremely soft and white. It is then hung up several days in the air to dry, and afterwards baked in an oven; it is next beat on wooden blocks, and then pounded as finely as possible in wooden vessels; but all this is not enough, the mass is yet to be carried to the mill and ground into coarse meal, like barley or oats. This meal is mixed up with *hexel*, with thrashed out ears, or with a few moss seeds and a bread of about an inch thickness is formed of this composition. Nature, with reluctance, receives the bitter and contracting food; and the boors endeavour to disguise the taste of it, by washing it down with water; but, in the beginning of the spring, after having lived on this bread a great part of winter, they become weak and relaxed, and they are incessantly tormented with an oppressive shooting and burning about the chest."—p. 87.

In another place, after having described the habits and diet of the Rein-deer Laplanders, he says, "A great part of the Swedish Laplanders in *Kemi Lappmark*, and especially in the *Församling* of *Enare*, live in quite a different manner. They live, for the most part, by fishing, and have but seldom a few rein-deer; on the other hand, they generally possess eight or ten sheep, but no cows. In summer they scarcely eat any thing but fish from the fresh water lakes, and drink, with great eagerness, the water in which the fish has been boiled. In winter they must put up with dried fish and with soups of water, fir bark, and rein-deer tallow. They peel off, in summer, the innermost bark of the fir, divide it in long strips, and hang them in their dwellings to dry for winter stores. When used, these strips of bark are minced in small pieces along with the rein-deer tallow, boiled together for several hours

* Travels through Norway and Lapland during the years 1806, 1807, and 1808. By Leopold Von Buch. Translated from the original German. By John Black. 4to. London, 1813.

with water, till in consistency they form a thick broth, and then eaten. A little ewe milk, and a few mountain bramble berries, contribute very little to the improvement of this wretched diet."—p. 324.

Sept. 1817. M.

ORIGINAL LETTER FROM THE MINISTERS OF PERTH, RESPECTING THE SURRENDER OF THAT TOWN TO MONTROSE'S ARMY, IN 1644.

THE extraordinary battle, or rather route, of Tippermuir, near Perth, took place on the 19th of May 1644, the Marquis of Montrose being general for the king, and the Lord Elcho for the Covenant. Montrose's army consisted of 2000 foot and 500 horse, partly Highlanders and partly Irish, while the force under Elcho amounted to 6600 cavalry and infantry. The Covenanters were disgracefully defeated in a single charge, 300 slain, chiefly in the pursuit, and many taken prisoners.—"Quorum alii præstito sacramento militari, victoris arma sequuti sunt: sed malâ fide, plerique enim omnes defecêre. Reliquos datâ, solemni modo, fide, nunquam in posterum contra regem ejusve duces militaturos libertati restituit."* In the conflict Montrose had only two of his men wounded.

Spalding, in his *naïve* manner, gives the following account of the Marquis's motions, previous to the battle of Tippermuir, and of the affair itself. It may be remarked, that he errs respecting the death of Lord Kilpont, who was not assassinated during the battle, but in a subsequent tumult of the Highlanders and Irish.

"Ye heard before of M'Donald's taking service with Montrose, his landing and progress with the Irishes, and what order the estates took in setting forth proclamations. As M'Donald marched in through Badenoch, M'Donald of Keppach and his forces came willingly unto him, with diverse others; the tutor of Struan, with his friends and followers, at his coming to Athol, came unto him; and here likewise James Marquis of Montrose trysted with this M'Donald and Irishes. He came secretly from England, accompanied only with Crowner Hay and Crowner Sibbald, as was said; and, clad in coat and trews, upon his foot he came to Athol, where divers gentlemen of that country met him, especially the Stuarts of Athol, and offered their service to him. The Lord Kilpont came there, with some friends. This mighty Marquis of Montrose, clad now with the king's commission and authority, calling now to mind the manifold injuries and oppressions done to him by the estates, especially by Argyle, since the beginning of this covenant, and resolving to revenge the king's quarrel and his own both, against the king's rebels and his mortal enemies, to the utmost of his power, (which, indeed, he did after a miraculous manner in several battles, as ye shall hear, to the great fear and terrour of all Scotland,) he marches from Athol above St Johnston. The general committee of estates at Edinburgh, hearing of the Irish progress, hastily raises out of the shires of Fife, Perth, and Angus, an army of about 6000 foot and 800 horse, with expert officers and commanders, ammunition, powder, ball, and four field pieces, to go upon thir Irishes. They were well in order both horse and foot; they march forward, and upon Sunday the 1st of September both parties meet upon a muir four miles bewest St Johnston, called Tibbermuir; but the lieutenant foresaid, Montrose, routed and defeated their haill forces with great slaughter, killed 1300, some say 1500, of their men, and took 800 prisoners, whom they made to serve in their wars. They gat plenty of arms, powder, ball, their cannon, and some horse, bag and baggage, with little loss for themselves. Lieutenant Montrose atchieved the victory with few men, not exceeding 3000 foot, with few or no horsemen at all, and with loss of some, but not many, men, and none of note except the Lord Kilpont, who was by one of his own men suddenly and unhappily slain, to the lieutenant's grief. After this conflict, he upon the morn, being Monday the 2d of September, takes in the burgh of St Johnston, with little debate, and small blood. They plunder the town for goods, monies, arms, ammunition, and such of their men as they thought meet to serve in the wars, with all the horse they could get, whereof this lieutenant was scarce, as I have said."

* Rer. Montisros. Cap. v.

The defeat of the Covenanters by Montrose was so complete and terrific, that, after a lapse of 80 years, the remembrance of it could still appal the courage of the Presbyterian party; upon the breaking out of the insurrection in the year 1715, the Earl of Rothes, Sheriff and Lord Lieutenant of the county of Fife, issued an order "for all the fencible men of the countie, to meet him at a place called Cashmoor; the gentlemen took no notice of his orders, nor did the commons, except those whom the ministers forced to goe to the place of rendezvous, to the number of 1500 men, being all that their utmost diligence could perform; but those of that countie, having been taught by their experience, that it is not good meddling with edge tools, especiallie in the hands of Highlandmen, were very averse from taking armes. No sooner they reflected on the place of rendezvous, Cashmoor, than Tippermoor was called to mind; a place not far from thence where Montrose had routed them, when, under the command of my great grand uncle, the Earl of Wemyss, then generall of God's armie: in a word, the unlucky choice of a place called *Moor*, appeared ominous; and that, with the flying report of the Highlandmen having made themselves masters of Perth, made them throw down their armes and run, notwithstanding the trouble that Rothes and the ministers gave themselves to stop them." *

The surrender of Perth to the Marquis of Montrose was deemed, by the great body of the Covenanters, an act of cowardice or treachery, or both. The following apologetical paper (which is without a date, and taken from the Wodrow collection of MSS. in the Advocates' Library of Edinburgh) was given in, either to the Parliament or the Committee of Estates, † by Messrs John Robertson and George Halyburton, ministers of Perth, the latter of whom, in spite of all the covenanting fervour displayed in this curious document, deserted his party at the restoration, and was consecrated bishop of Dunkeld. He is thus characterized by Kirkton: "Mr George Haliburton for Dunkeld, was a man of utterance, but who had made more changes than old infamous Eccebolius, and was never thought sincere in any, he seemed to be so ingenious, and never was; you may guess what savour was in that salt." * We are told, in the Memoirs of the Reverend Mr Thomas Halyburton, that the bishop, "who proved a cruel persecutor of his former friends, was scarce well warm in his nest, when the Lord smote him with sore sickness, of which he died, and went to his place."

Reasons for the Surrender of Perth.

If Perth be blamed for anie thing, it must be either for that they did render at all, or, 2. because the termes of rendering were not honest and honorable, or, 3[lie], because the carriage of the inhabitants was bad after the entrie of the enemie. As for the first, we could not but render upon thir grounds: 1. The strength of the toune was not in their own walls or inhabitants, but in the armie of friends that were in the fields, w[ch] being shamefullie beat and fullie routed, did so exanimate and dishearten the poore inhabitants that they could not exerce the verie naturall act of moving, let be of resolut reason. For that miserable flight was, for its suddantie and unexpectedness, as the clapp of judgment; and then, 2. a reason of great amazement. For they shall be confounded that trust in the arme of flesh. The trust of the inhabitants was as the trust of their friends,—too too great, yea the meane was more looked to than the principall efficient cause, w[ch] selfe trust God punished justlie, both in the one and the other. Secondlie, Our men were verie few, not extending to sex score. For we had in the fields a companie of musquetiers, (under Captaine Grant, who was there killed,) which, for the most part, fled, suspecting that the toune should become a prey to the enemie's crueltie. Others of the toune, confident of the victorie, went out to the moore careleslie, and so, in the flight, by running, were made useelesse. A third part of the toune timorouslie fled at the first report of the enemie's victorie. Could the toune trust it selfe to the defence of so few,

* MS. Memoirs of Lord St Clair.

† Or perhaps to the General Assembly of the Church; for no mention of it occurs in the Books of the Committee of Estates, preserved in the Register House.

* Kirk. Hist. p. 136.

and so few disheartened men? Thirdlie, Our friends in Fyfe and Stratherne that came unto us, they were either unwilling or unable to assist us. Their unwillingnes kythed in this, that all, when they came in at the ports, either went to the boats or to houses, out of wch no entreatie could draw them. The trueth of this is proven; for the provest of the town, with a minister going alongst the streets, with a trumpet three tymes, could not, of inhabitants and friends both, make up so many as to guard three ports, let be five, forby all the walls and posts of the toune. Whereas it is said, or may be said, that the Fife men offered to assist us. Its trueth there were seen 12 or thereabout armlesse men, and some of them drunk, come to the provest in the porch of the kirk offering themselves to serve. But such a few number could not be trusted to, so many having feared the enemie's forces before and fled. 2. They were unable who came in, for first they were all fore-fainted and bursted with running, insomuch that nine or ten dyed that night in toune without any wound. 3. An overwhelming feare did take them, that did absolutelie disinable them from resistence of such a cruell enemie. Their feare kythed in this, that multitudes breaking up cellars did cast themselves down there, expecting the enemies approach. The provest came in to one house amongst many, where there were a number lying panting, and desired them to rise for their own defence. They answered, their hearts were away, they would fight no more although they should be killed. And then, althogh they had been both willing and stout, yet they were unable to resist, for they had casten all their armes from them be the way, and wee in the towne had none to spare. 4. In toune we had no ammunition, for Dundie refused them, and that which was got out of Cowper was for the most part had out in carts to the Moore. 5. Our enemies that before the fight were naked, weaponles, amunitionles, and cannonles men, and so unable to have laid seige to the towne, by the flight of our friends, were clothed, got aboundance of armes, and great plenty of ammunition, with 6 piece of canon. So our friends disarming us, and arming our enemies, enabled them, and disabled us. 6. If our friends had not come and fled at our ports and forsaken us, we would, with the assistance of honest men about, defended ourselves. The Master of Balmerino and the Laird of Moncrieff can witnes the tounes resolution the Friday before the fight, when we were alone, for then we would expected helpe from Fyfe, and Angus, and Stratherne in 24 hours, to have raised the seige. But after the fight and flight we were out of all hopes. For, on the north, Athole was an enemie, on the east, Angus, on the report of the defeat, disbanded, or at least a few of them fled to Dundie. For Fife, they were so disbanded that there was little hope of a suddaine levie. For my Lord Marques of Argyle we knew not if he was come from the Highlands or not. And so this proved. For the first friends that we saw was the elevent day after the dismall fight. If so few faint hearted men without meat, drink, (of wch the toun was very scarce,) could have stood so long against so many cruell desperat enemies, let the reasonable judge. 7. The hounds of hell were drawen up before our ports newlie deeply bathed in blood, routed with hideous cryes for more, and in the meane time there abode not one gentleman of Fife to give us counsell, save one who is an uselesse member amongst themselves at home, and, consequently, could not be but uselesse to us. Neither a gentleman of the committee of our owne shire, save Balhousie; so exanimate with fear, and destitute of counsell, wee could not stand out.

After the sight and serious consideration of thir reasons, and of the miserable consequents of outstanding, being so unable, as, namely, the razing of the citie, the losse of all our meanes, and the cruell massacring of our own persons, wee began to thincke upon a surrender of the citie, if in anie termes we could have our consciences and our covenants preserved entire. If any wayes the enemie would meddle with these, the ministers gave counsell to lose life and all, wch was accorded to by all the toun counsell, as may appear be the town's letter of answer to Montrose his demand.

So to the next point. Being, by strength of reason, and extreame necessitie, urged to render, wee thought on articles to propone, w^ch^, not being

satisfied, we all resolved to die before wee gave over. In the meane time, a letter came from Montrose, desiring us to joine in service to his Matie. Wee answered, If, by joining in service, he meant all that civill obedience that did tye our free subjects to be performed, we would joine w^t^ all good subjects; but if, by joining, he meant to encroach on our consciences, and to make us break any point of our covenants, wee would not joine w^t^ him nor any, lest by so doing God should be highlier provoked, and moved to bring down a heavier judgment then he had done that day on us. The articles proponed with the answer wer thir five, 1. That our toune and parish should not be urged with any thing against their conscience, especially against the two covenants. 2. That the town should not be plundered or reifled, neither the adjacent landward. 3. That in all things we should be used as free subjects, and so that none of our men should be pressed. 4. That no Irishes should get entrie or passage through our toun. 5. That all our good friends and neighbors in toune should have a passe safelie to go to their own homes. The honestie of thir articles may be proven be the first article, the honorablenes of them be the rest. Its honestie, to adhere to our covenant; and honor, (being not able to do otherwise,) to keep our selves and friends free of skaith, and give our enemie no full entrie. Look what hath been called honest and honourable capitulations in the like cases of rendring abroad, and wee in thir articles shall not be found farre short of them.

As for the third point, the gesture and carriage of the town towards the enemie. If by the toune be meaned the ministers, they are heere, let them be tried. If by the toune be meant the magistrats, they did show no countenance either welcomming them, eating or drinking with them. If by the toun be meaned the bodie, welcomes were so farre, that we wish to God the voice of such joy be never heard on the streets of Edinburgh; wee may boldlie say, in the face of any will say the contrarie, that, consider the number, and our weeping was as great as lamentings of Achor's valley. Wee will be bold to say, it was the saddest day that ever the town did see; and that enemie the saddest sight, nay it was to them as the verie sight of the executioner on the scaffold. If by the toune be meaned particular men, we can not be answerable for evrie particular man's carriage. If any can be found, let these be tryed and punished for being so unnaturall. The hearts of none we know, but the outward carriage of all our toune was humble, demisse, sadd, sorrowfull, verie farre from the expressions of any joy.

Two things are proponed to be considered: 1. Whether the rendring of the field or the town was most disgracefull and prejudiciall to the cause and countrie. The toune was rendred, not being able, for the former reasons, to stand out, upon honest and honourable capitulations.

The field was rendred, having two to one, of wch many horse, ane [*and*] good cannon, by a shamefull groundles tergiversation. 2. The toun's rendring, being unable to stand out, saved the effusion of much blood; for, being unable, and yet stand out, wee should have bin accessarie to our own massacre; but the field's render was the cause of much blood, ten only being killed standing, and all the rest fleeing, so that being able to stand, and yet fled, they seeme to be accessarie to much blood they might have saved. 3. The toun's rendring was the very immediat necessar effect of the field's rendring; let any man having considered this inferre the conclusion.

Againe, let the events of rendring and not rendring the toun be compard, and see wch should have bin most hurtfull to the cause and countrie. By rendring (not being able to stand) wee keeped our cause and covenant unviolat. Wee keeped our citie,—we keeped our lives,—and our means for manteenance of the cause and countrie in time coming. By not standing, (being so unable,) the countrie had losed a citie, a number of poore souls, men, women, and babes, with all their fortunes and meanes. Was it not better then to have rendred with such honestie, as to have resisted with such certaintie of danger.

They who would have had us in Perth, offer our selves a bloodie sacrifice for our countrie, and with more honest terms could save our selves for our countrie's service; and, in the

meanetime, had not the contrair [courage?] for their countrie to withstand the force of sworne enemies themselves, to say no more they are to uncharitablie cruell against us, and too partiallie lovers of themselves.

As for that the toune held in their friends to be captived, its true for a little while they were detained; but how soone we saw it impossible to stand out, we let all our boats passe, and Fife men, with other men, so throngd, that sindrie were drowned, both horse and foot. Our boats passed that night till elleven houres at evening. Our port we could not open, neither could they passe. For the cruell doggs were even hard at the Inch, and had a companie betwixt that and the bridge waiting the massacre of such as we should let out. Its apparant if we should let out the Fyfe men, and they beene killed betweene our towne and the bridge, that they should have said in Fife that wee would not harbour them, but chase them out to the slaughter. God judge us according to the charitie some of us shew to them.

HISTORICAL NOTICES OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST GILES, EDINBURGH, WITH SUGGESTIONS FOR ITS EXTERIOR DECORATION.

"Storys to rede ar delitabill,
Suppose that thai be nocht bot fabill;
Than suld storys that suthfast wer,
And thai war said on gud maner,
Hawe doubill plesance in heryng.
The fyrst plesance is the carpyng,
And the tother the suthfastnes,
That schewys the thing rycht as it wes.
And suth thyngis that ar likand
Till mannys heryng ar plesand;
Tharfor I wald fayne set my will,
Giff my wyt mycht suffice thartill,
To put in wryt a suthfast story,
That it lest ay furth in memory."

BARBOUR (MS.)

MR EDITOR,

AMONG the monuments of Gothic architecture which at this day abound in Great Britain, there are few which come oftener under *our* review, or attract attention more, than the edifice erected in this city, and dedicated to St Giles. Every attempt to ascertain with accuracy the period of its foundation has hitherto failed. *Simeon of Durham* has been quoted, as mentioning its existence in 854, in reckoning the churches and towns subject to the bishoprick of Lindisfarn, or Holy Island. But this is a mistake; the passage alluded to mentions no church; though it may be inferred that one then existed.—This, however, was not St Giles, which cannot be attributed to an earlier period than the 12th century. St Cuthbert's was the *only* existing church near Edinburgh at that time; and Maitland mentions, that David I. in the year 1128, gave this church "to the abbot and canons of Holyroodhouse." St Giles's Church is also mentioned in 1359 by Maitland. From this time till 1466 it was merely a parish church, (Hay in his MS. says till 1483,) when a charter was procured from James III. by the magistrates for its erection into a collegiate church.

In 1385, the town and suburbs of Edinburgh were destroyed by Richard II. and the church of St Giles was then burnt. * It had been at an early period under the patronage of the Abbot and Canons of Dunfermline; and, came afterwards under that of the Magistrates and Town-Council of Edinburgh, who, in the year 1563, *for the first time*, had a seat in the New Church erected "for their use and the credit of the city."

David II., by a royal charter dated 15th December 1359, granted certain lands to the parish church of St Giles. In 1380 a contract was made between the Provost of Edinburgh and certain masons, to vault a part of the church; and, in 1387, † a very considerable addition was contracted to be made to it, consisting of "fyve Chappells on the south side, fra the west Gavyl, lyand

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* It was in St Giles's Church that the Scottish barons met in 1384, and resolved on a war with England, the result of which was the burning of the church with the greater part of the town in the following year. In R. A. Hay's MS. (Advocates' Library) it is said, "Anno 1385, Rex Angliae voraci flamma ecclesiam Sancti Ægidii consumpsit, cum villa de Edinburgh," &c. &c. and refers to Boeth. lib. 16, fol. 343; Lesl. lib. 7, p. 250.

Lesley's words are, "Richardus Angliæ Rex, incursione in Scotiam, cum multis militum copiis facta, Edinburgum, monasteriis undique direptis, ab incolis desertum cepit: atque (ut odii in homines, sic impietatis in Deum monumentum ibi defigeret sempiternum) *S. Ægidii templum* sævissimo absumpsit incendio," &c.

† Maitland, p. 270.

and rynan doun Est, on the grate Pylar of the Stepyl, voutyt on the sam Maner by the masounys, as the vout aboyve Sanct Steviny's auter standand, on the north syde of the Parys auter of the abbay of the Haly-rude Houss."* Corresponding to these chapels, there appear to have been also erected five chapels on the northern side of the cathedral; but the date of their erection has not been ascertained. The indenture dated 1387, with the references in the Chamberlayne's accounts about this time, shew, that to this period the present building is to be assigned. And it would be curious to ascertain what portions of it formed the church at that time. No part of it can be so late as the beginning of the 16th century, as Maitland infers from the notices in the council register.

The length of this cathedral outside is understood to be 206 feet; at the west end its breadth is 110 feet; at the east 76 feet; and at the transept 129 feet. The height of the steeple is 155½ feet, or, as Arnot states it, 161 feet. *

The sacred architecture of the Anglo-Normans did not differ much in its style and manner from that of the Anglo-Saxons; their churches being in general plain, low, massive, and dark; the arches, both of the doors and windows, *semicircular*, with few or no ornaments. † By degrees, through much practice, our architects, *who were all monks or clergymen*, improved in their taste and skill, and ventured to form plans of more noble, light, and elevated structures, with a great variety of ornaments, which led to that bold, magnificent style of building, commonly, though perhaps not very properly, called *the Latter Gothic*. It is not improbable, that our monkish architects were assisted in attaining this style of building by models from foreign countries, or by instructions from such of their own number as had visited Italy, France, Spain, or the East. But, without entering into uncertain disputes about the origin of this style of architecture, it is sufficient to observe, that it began to appear in England in the reign of Henry II., and was distinguished from the more ancient Gothic by the following marks: The walls were much higher, though not so thick, and supported on the outside by buttresses; the doors and windows were wider and loftier; and the arches of both were no longer semicircular, but *pointed*, and were sometimes ornamented with clusters

* Before this period, several altars and chaplanries appear to have been founded within this church by private donations from individuals, and so early as the year 1365, King David II. ratifies a donation made by William Hare, burgess of Edinburgh: "Deo et altari beate Marie Virginis in ecclesia *Sancti Egidii* de Edinburgh, de illa terra jacente, &c. in vico boreali dicti burgi," &c. * Shortly after its destruction by fire, in 1385, the church was rebuilt, and in the different accounts of the Great Chamberlain of Scotland, rendered at Exchequer between the years 1390 and 1413, there are various entries of sums paid by grant from the King towards defraying the expence of rebuilding the fabric, of which the following may serve as specimens. In the account for 1391, after entering the various sums with which he charged himself, there is this clause:—"Item, Idem (Camerarius) non onerat se de xxxix li. receptis per exitus Camerarie per tempus computi preter exitus Curie Camerarie tente infra villam de Edinburgh, que conceduntur per Regem, *ad fabricam ecclesie ejusdem*." In the account for 1410, there is a similar entry: "Et non onerat se de exitibus Itineris Camerarie tenti infra burgum de Edinburgh, in anno nono, quia totum commodum inde proveniens preter expensas Camerarie tempore itineris datum fuit per Dominum Gubernatorem Regni, *fabrice ecclesie parochialis burgi de Edinburgh*." And in the account for 1412, the Chamberlain exonerates himself with the following sum: "Item, Idem computat per solutionem factam *fabrice ecclesie Sancti Egidii* de Edinburgh, ex donatione Domini Gubernatoris de exitibus unius Itineris Camerarie tenti apud Edinburgh, infra hoc computum xxvi li. xiii s. iiij d."

* Registrum Magni Sigilli, p. 54.

* Birrel, in his Diary, p. 47, mentions the following curious exploit: "The 10 of Julii 1598, ane man, some callit him ane jugler, playit sic souple tricks upon ane tow, q^ik was fastenit betwix the tope of St Geill's Kirk steiple, and ane staire beneathe the Crosse, callit Josias Close Heid, the lyk was never sene in yis countrie, as he zaid doune the tow, and playit sa mony pavies on it."

† Dr Ducarel's Anglo-Norman Antiquities, p. 102, &c. Strutt's Manners, &c. of England, v. I. p. 102. Bentham's Hist. Ely. Pref. Grose's Antiquities of England, pref. p. 63, &c.

of pillars on each side, and great variety of carvings; the larger windows had mullions of stone for ornament, and for the conveniency of fixing the glass; the pillars that supported the roof were lofty and slender, and frequently surrounded with small pillars, that made them appear like a cluster; the arches of the roof, like those of the doors and windows, were pointed; the roof was covered with lead, and the fabric ornamented on the top at each end with pinnacles, and with a tower over the middle of the cross, on which very lofty spires of wood and stone were frequently erected. *

The term *Gothic* always associates with it notions of stupidity, ignorance, and barbarism, and seems *peculiarly ill applied* to a style of architecture which exhibits so much ingenuity and skill. Gibbon tells us, that, in A. D. 250, the Emperor Decius was *first* summoned to the banks of the Danube by the invasion of the GOTHS; and that powerful people remained masters of that country, and of Italy, till the year 553, when they were overcome by *Narses*, the Emperor Justinian's general. But it was not *later* than between the 12th and 16th centuries that Gothic architecture (so named) flourished, and was found in cathedrals, and many other stately edifices, throughout several countries of Europe; and nowhere are there such fine examples to be discovered as at this day exist in Britain.

The application of the term *Gothic*, therefore, to such buildings, is, in point of taste and truth at least, *doubtful*, and to most persons it appears, as indeed it does to me, absolutely absurd.

Now that the † Luckenbooths have been safely carted to Leith Wynd, (would it had been done some dozen years ago!) and the Tolbooth (to the unutterable delight of the inhabitants) is journeying quickly to Fettes' Row, there to be transformed into common sewers and drains, the irregular and grim visage of the Cathedral has been in a great measure unmasked. There yet remain, however, the vile booths, with their still more execrable chimneys, to disfigure the south side of the Cathedral in the Parliament Close; but, Whitsuntide will come anon, and the existence of these aged deformities will be no more.

These changes have now rendered it necessary to embellish the exterior of the venerable Cathedral of St Giles; but as it may yet be some considerable time, Mr Editor, ere the final arrangements are completed, I purpose at present, with your permission, to submit to your readers a few remarks on this interesting subject, which I hope will be acceptable to them, and perhaps prove useful to the directors of our public works. These observations may probably induce our municipal rulers to contemplate the advantages of studying that cardinal virtue, PRUDENCE, * without which, as a celebrated philosopher once said, "*Knowledge becomes useless, wit ridiculous, and genius contemptible.*"

On this Cathedral it is quite practicable, and, we believe, at a moderate expence withal, to make most interesting and attractive alterations.

The first object is unquestionably *economy* in conducting the whole operations. The next thing of importance is an accurate investigation of the features of the Cathedral itself, whereby the period or periods of its erection, and the precise *character* of its architecture, may be nearly ascertained, and thus the judgment guided in drawing suitable plans. This building was not erected when the rich and florid description of the Gothic obtained, and care ought therefore to be had, *not* to produce plans which would only tend to throw the whole out of *keeping*. A melancholy instance of

* Sir Christ. Wren's Parentalia, p. 298. Bentham's Hist. Ely. Pref. Grose's Antiquities, Pref. p. 70.

† As the etymology of this word is not generally known, we shall quote Maitland's account of it: "The Scottish commerce formerly extended no farther than to France and the Low Countries; from the latter we got *woollen-cloth*, by the Flemings called *Laken*, the sellers whereof occupying the *Booth-raw*, that name was forced to give way to *Laken-booths*." A name which, the same author correctly predicted, would continue to be borne by these buildings, which, in 1753, he described as being "*rotten, noisome*, and *offensive*."

* Lack of judgment, and want of attention to this virtue, have been severely felt by every person of sound taste in this city, in the melancholy case of St George's Church; where a disgusting substitute has been placed at a vastly *greater* expence than the magnificent church in the *original* plan of Adam could have been erected for.

this may be discovered in the new County-buildings lately erected here, where the ponderous entablature of the edifice suits so badly with the starved representation of that feature in the one adjoining---indeed, they mutually destroy each other. It is admitted, that the architect found some authority in Stuart's Athens (Temple of Erechtheus) for the *decorations* of the county-buildings; but the Greeks knew better than some of us in *modern Athens*, how to adapt one edifice to another, and how to indulge in variety without injuring the general effect of the whole. *

The mode I would recommend to secure the best chance of success in obtaining a plan for the Cathedral is as follows, viz. Let the measurement of the building, as it now stands, be accurately taken, together with the elevations of the four sides, and perhaps a longitudinal and transverse section of the building, and let these be engraved merely in *outline*. Let a set of these impressions be sent to such artists as Mr Wyatt, Mr Wilkins, and Mr Smirke, of London, and *to that most accomplished scholar in Gothic architecture*, Mr Blore, and request of these gentlemen to furnish plans for the alteration of the building in question. Impressions should also be sent to Mr Burn and to Mr Elliot of this city, (for "in the multitude of counsellors there is safety,") and, having procured and *paid* for the ideas of all these gentlemen on this very important subject, let the whole be submitted to the most competent judges of which this city can boast, (a greater number of whom will be found, than "is dreamt of in your philosophy,") and by their decision let the choice of the plan be determined.

We shall write nothing at present about that vile interpolation, the Police-office, with its *cabinet d'aisance* in front, and "the deep damnation" incurred by placing it under the hallowed roof of the Cathedral; because, from good authority, we know that it is soon to be removed—and "*'twere well 'twere done quickly.*"

In forwarding these projected and desirable repairs on this Cathedral, it is very likely that if the matter be conducted with *prudence*, some pecuniary assistance towards defraying the expence would be readily authorised by the Honourable the Barons of Exchequer. The Cathedrals at Dunblane and Dunkeld, the chapel at Holyrood, and other edifices, have undergone considerable repairs at the sight of the Honourable Barons, and, if my information be correct, which I doubt not, they recommended public aid. Good reasons doubtless existed to induce these repairs *thus* to be defrayed; but there appear *far stronger grounds* for prompting these judges to afford the necessary aid in the repair of our metropolitan Cathedral. There the representative of majesty itself yearly holds a place. In this Cathedral the Barons have a seat appropriated exclusively to their use. The Lords of Council and Session likewise attend divine service under the same roof; and in this church is the original seat of the magistrates of the city.

The Cathedral of St Giles is certainly capable of being formed into one of the most attractive edifices of this city,—but, again and again, we state, that every thing depends on the judicious selection of the plan for altering and improving the building. I shall now take leave of this subject for the present, in the hope, that before any thing conclusive is determined on, every bearing of the case will be carefully considered. May our public officers weigh this matter deeply; and, lest the adage shall have escaped their recollection, may I just be permitted to whisper, *Qu'il n'y a pas quelquefois moins d'habilité à sçavoir profiter d'un bon conseil, qu'à se bien conseiller soi même.* B.

* Notwithstanding the assertion of our worthy Sheriff, (to whose exertions in promoting the many great improvements now in progress, we are so very much indebted,) "that not a line of this building was without its authority;" we apprehend that the architect will have some cudgelling of his brains, ere he can produce *authority* for the manner in which he has introduced and squeezed the columns of the northern front, betwixt the lumpish and unmeaning Antæ, which he has thought proper to place there, in positive defiance of simplicity, and without the slightest appearance of utility. Certain we are, that the Erechtheum (from which he has taken *the proportions of the columns*, &c.) can furnish no authority for so doing.

ON THE INTRODUCTION OF THE ORGAN INTO THE SERVICE OF THE SCOTTISH CHURCH.

MR EDITOR,

THE delight which the clergy of Edinburgh seem to take in improving church-music, while it is exceedingly creditable to their taste and good sense, leads to a hope that they will at length sanction the introduction of the organ into our church service. The obstacles which have hitherto opposed this appear now to be reduced to a very small number. In former times, the Scottish Presbyterian ministers opposed instrumental music, for no other reason than because it was used by the Roman and Lutheran churches. More lately, when their own prejudices began to give way, the opposition was continued out of respect to the prejudices of the people; and, at this day, some difficulty may be found in any attempt to eradicate what was sown with so much care, and nourished until the root became too mighty to be moved. But the sturdiest oak at last yields to age; and time effects, without effort, what baffles the strength and ingenuity of man. We have had the good fortune to live to see the mighty stem of prejudice begin to decay, and we may hope soon to see the mouldering of the root.

An argument which I lately heard stated against the use of the organ, and which seems to be the last that is likely to have any weight with the strict Presbyterians, deserves, in my opinion, some more particular notice, than any of the foolish unmeaning cant which, in past times, was found sufficient to keep prejudice alive. It has been stated, that, when the human frame is so constituted as to derive pleasure from music, the gratification of the ear becomes more important than the duty to that Being to whom praises are sung. I must confess that, at first, this argument felt somewhat weighty; and I was rather at a loss how to answer it, although I was at once satisfied that it could be answered. It appears to me that much, if not the whole, of its force may be neutralized, and perhaps overcome, by attempting to resolve these simple questions, Are we to praise God in a manner agreeable or disagreeable to ourselves? and, Are we to believe that the Supreme Being is better pleased with what we dislike than with what is gratifying to us?

The clergy of Edinburgh, and by far the greater number of the whole church, have distinctly allowed that it is proper to sing psalms *in parts;* and some of themselves are known to bear their parts extremely well. The object of the Institution for Sacred Music, and of all the subordinate psalm-singing societies, is to teach singing in parts. Now, this is undeniably for the gratification of our own ears, and a clear admission that we believe that which gratifies ourselves to be agreeable to Almighty God. Now, I would ask, Is there not as much risk, if not more, of the attention being called away from the object of devotion, by the care which is requisite to keep the voice in tune, (in whatever part it may be adapted to,) as in going along with the heavenly sounds of an organ? In the care which the clergy of all parties and persuasions have of late bestowed on the improvement of psalm-singing, there is a clear admission that we ought to sing in tune, in time, and in parts; or, in other words, in a manner *agreeable to ourselves.* It follows, of course, that the admission must extend to the belief that the Supreme Being is best pleased when we sing according to those laws which *he has himself ordained for sound.* He has also so constituted us, that we are offended when any of those laws are broken.

I believe that it is very generally felt, by all who are devout, and who have a musical ear, that their devotion is powerfully roused by the accompaniment of an organ. I humbly conceive that such is human nature, as to justify a parallel between worship and manual labour. The mind and the body are in such close connection, that when the one is pleased the other is also pleased, and when the one is depressed and languid, the other feels oppressed. Some farmers in your vicinity take advantage of this fact; and it is easily observed, that the poor Highland reapers work more cheerily to the accompaniment of a bagpipe than when they are left to think on the distance they have travelled to earn their food, and a scanty pittance to maintain them on their dreary journey homewards. How lustily do boatmen row, when the ca-

dence of a song regulates their strokes! How steadily the ploughboy, and his horses too, keep on a measured pace when he whistles! So I maintain it is with worship. The earnestness with which a psalm is sung when accompanied, far outstrips the languor and harshness of voices, each voice pitching its own key, and drawling out its tone in discord, to the often untuned voice of an unlearned precentor. How dull and sleepy a congregation becomes, when a sermon, however well composed, is delivered in a voice neither melodious nor impressive! How eagerly it is listened to when the intonation and emphases are skilfully and agreeably employed upon language properly adapted to the organs of pronunciation!

Every one is offended when a voice in church is out of time or tune; and this so frequently happened, that the clergy themselves were sensible that some remedy was necessary; and, accordingly, to be able to teach church music, is a qualification commonly required in parish schoolmasters. But it has never been stated as a reason for improving church music, that the improvement would be agreeable to the object of worship. The reason was, undeniably, that it was necessary to remove what was offensive to ourselves, and to substitute what was agreeable. How very short the next step is need not be demonstrated. To call in the aid of an organ, to direct our voices, and to add force and solemnity to the sound of the praise which we offer, cannot be less pleasing to our Maker than were the sounds of the harp, the dulcimer, the sacbut, psaltery, cymbals, &c. which his chosen people employed in their devotions.

It is no unfrequent argument in the pulpit, "You pay respect to the great men of the earth; how much more ought you to pay respect and give honour to Him, who is greater than the greatest?" If, when we entertain a great personage, we offer to him every thing which can gratify sense, why should we not add to the power of our voices the finest artificial sounds that can be produced, when we offer homage to Him on whom we all depend? Such sounds gratify no gross sense: they soothe and elevate the soul. We have ceased to think that the Almighty can be pleased with the fat of oxen and the blood of lambs; and mankind have now reached that eminence on the mountain of knowledge, from whence they look down with pity on the ignorance of man while in that state which required much ceremony to impress on him the awfulness of heavenly majesty. But still we consider melody as acceptable; and we now universally admit that harmony is proper. If an organ be objected to, because it is artificial, the same objection ought to have excluded harmony, which is also artificial. If harmony adds force and agreeableness to the voices of a congregation, the force and agreeableness are vastly increased by the accompaniment of an organ; and surely, if improvement be sought for at all, there can be neither reason nor sense in fixing a limit to it. The more agreeable church service can be made, the more will men be attracted, and the more earnestly will they perform it. Nay, I maintain, that, if a man can be attracted into a church by no other wish than to hear an organ, a most important object is gained; for, if a sinner be once tempted to behold the good assembled and joining in devotion, his heart may be turned, and he may repent. Can there be any thing bad in what may produce such an effect as to draw the heart of a sinner towards the seat of mercy and forgiveness?

The performance of voluntaries, in the English service, has been objected to, and, I am disposed to think, justly. Lovers of music are apt to be employed, during the performance of such pieces, in judging of the merits of the composition, of the skill of the organist, and of the power and other qualities of the instrument. I must acknowledge, however, that I have heard voluntaries of a character which powerfully impressed on me a feeling of deep solemnity; and an organist of judgment may, unquestionably, second the preacher in a very effectual manner. On the whole, however, I am against voluntaries, and every thing in which the congregation does not join.

I will not occupy your pages, nor the attention of your readers, longer at present. There may be objections to the introduction of the organ of which I am ignorant, and which I should be happy to see fairly and can-

didly stated. *Toleration* is all that is wanted; not that every Presbyterian church should have an organ. It is well known, that, in an extent of Scotland, nearly equal to one half, the gown and band dare not be worn, lest the wearer should be stoned; but it is tolerated elsewhere, and those who do not wear it find no fault with those who do. I trust that the time is at hand, when those congregations who may choose to have organs, will be as little molested as those whose pastors preach in the gown and band. I conclude by observing, that those of Scotland are the only Presbyterians, I believe, who have not organs in their churches. A very fine one, built under the direction of a Scotch minister, Mr Liston, has been lately sent to the Scotch church at Calcutta.—I am, Sir, yours, A PRESBYTERIAN.

Edinburgh, October 1817.

REMARKS ON THE HISTORY OF PAINTING IN SCOTLAND.

MR EDITOR,

As the very respectable journal which you have lately undertaken to conduct, has long been distinguished for its cordial support of every improvement peculiarly Scottish, I trust you will readily give admission to the following observations on a subject which I consider to be of the very first importance, both to the character of this city, and to the progress of the country—I mean the present state of painting in Scotland. It is a subject to which, amidst the multifarious discussions that have lately engaged all minds, far less attention has been given, than, from its importance and interest, we might naturally have expected; and I shall, therefore, take the liberty of introducing the more immediate object of this paper by some observations on the previous history of the art in this country.

Scotland cannot be considered as having ever possessed a school of painting. The poverty of the country itself, and the active part which its inhabitants have taken in the political transactions of the last two hundred years, have combined in turning the attention of Scotchmen rather to studies connected with the conduct of affairs, than to those more tranquil pursuits which aim at the improvement of national taste; and, though a few individuals, during the last century, attained considerable eminence as professional painters, it is impossible to name any one of these whose accomplishments and genius were of so transcendant a nature, as either to shed a new lustre upon the character of his country, or to give a decided impulse to the taste of his contemporaries.

Most of the eminent painters who formerly flourished in this country, had studied abroad; and it is curious to observe how decidedly the exertions of their genius were determined by the combined influence of the models they had studied during their preparatory labours, and of the circumstances of the society in which they were placed, when they returned, as practitioners, to their native land. The style of painting in which the great foreign masters seem chiefly to have delighted, was that appropriated to history or portrait; and in a country like Scotland, which was chiefly remarkable for the poverty and dependence of the mass of the community, the feudal pride of the great proprietors, and the military achievements by which its history had been distinguished, the genius of its artists was naturally directed into a line of study corresponding to these circumstances. We find, accordingly, that the works of Jamieson, who is generally considered as the Vandyke of Scotland, were chiefly of that kind which can be appropriately employed in decking the sombre walls of an university;—and that those foreign artists who, from time to time, settled in this country, and who seem successively to have led the taste of the nation, have left us scarcely any thing but those solemn figures which now throw a sepulchral gloom over our public halls. Of this order are those pseudo-portraits of our Scottish monarchs which cover the walls of Holyroodhouse, and which were the productions of De Wit, an artist, it is said, of the Flemish school, and in his own days of no slender reputation. To the same class belong also the portraits executed by Sir John Medina, a native of Brussels, who, for his eminence as an artist, had been knighted in this country, and whose *chef-d'œuvres* are still, I believe, to be seen in high preservation in the Sur-

geon's Hall of this city. Aikman, the friend of Ramsay the poet, produced the very excellent portrait of Principal Carstairs, which may still be seen in the Library Hall of the University of Edinburgh, and several other individuals of eminence in their day contributed to furnish those bearded countenances, or those majestic monsters in robes or gowns, by which the walls of our ancient and public edifices are so profusely covered. It ought to be remarked, however, that some native painters occasionally appeared, who ventured to indulge in a bolder style, and whose productions bear the stamp of that progressive improvement which every country in Europe very rapidly underwent during the last century. The taste and power of Runciman are sufficiently displayed by his great work in the Hall of Ossian at Pennycuick House, and by his excellent picture of the Ascension, which still appears over the altar of one of the Episcopal chapels of this city. As society advanced, the art of landscape painting, and all that infinite variety of the productions of the pencil, in which the genius of the artist must furnish his subject, gradually attained a state of comparative excellence; and several works of considerable merit, in both these departments, may still be found either in the collections of the curious, or among the hereditary treasures of our older families. Norrie was a landscape painter of some eminence in this city about the middle of the last century. Moore, who flourished somewhat later, has been regarded as the best landscape painter of his day; and, since his time, every branch of the art has been advancing with a rapidity, though not perhaps proportioned to the high character of the country in other respects, yet sufficient to shew what might be expected from the abilities of our artists, if their exertions were aided by every advantage of circumstances.

From this review, however, it must be apparent that the genius of this country, for the arts of design, has never been placed in such circumstances as completely to develope its native tendency; and that we are not entitled, from those productions of the pencil, which are still exhibited as the *chef-d'œuvres* of our predecessors, to decide respecting the character which painting would assume in this country, if the exertions of our artists were left to their natural bias. Many circumstances, it is true, contribute to produce and to modify the genius of a people; but there is a strong presumption, I apprehend, from the romantic character of the scenery of this country, the peculiar *naïveté* of our national character, and our decided tendency to catch what is striking and picturesque, either in the appearances of nature, or in the aspects of character,—a tendency so unequivocally displayed in the idiom of our language—that the genius of our artists would naturally display itself with the happiest effect, either in depicting the more romantic scenery of nature, or in expressing those peculiarities of our national manners which offer so many fine subjects for its exhibition. It is notorious, accordingly, that in both these departments the natives of this country hold, at this moment, a very high rank; and that, while Nasmyth and Williams, in landscape painting, may vie with the most approved artists among our southern neighbours, the compositions of Wilkie and Allan, as delineations of character, have outstripped the exertions of all other competitors, in the captivating style appropriated to such productions.

Your readers will perceive, therefore, from what I have now said, that, though I consider the genius of our countrymen, in the art of painting, never yet to have been so propitiously situated as decidedly to display its native partialities, I am disposed to believe, not only from analogical reasonings, but from facts universally acknowledged, that the department of this art, which may be regarded as especially suited to the character of our minds, is that which is conversant either with what is magnificent in nature, or interesting and peculiar in national character; and that, as the poetical compositions of Ramsay and Burns are pre-eminently entitled to the character of Scottish, not merely because they are occupied with national peculiarities, and delivered in the characteristic language of the country, but from their being exact specimens of that tone of thinking and feeling which is most congenial to our natural temperament—that artist also may be regarded as peculiarly the representative of the genius of our people

who exhibits, with the happiest and most characteristic effect, either the picturesque features of national scenery, or the grotesque peculiarities of national manners.

From about the middle of the last century, till the present times,—a period during which the advances of this country towards refinement have been quite unexampled,—many unsuccessful attempts have been made to establish in Scotland, and particularly in this city, such a general combination of the productions of its artists, as might have the effect both of fostering the talent which is latent in the country, and of diffusing a more decided taste for what is excellent in art. The first of these attempts was made in the year 1753, by Robert and Andrew Fowlis, the celebrated printers. These accomplished individuals, having previously given much reputation to Glasgow by the unrivalled elegance of their style of printing, were naturally desirous that in other branches of art that city should support the high character it had acquired in one department. The academy which they instituted with this view, continued to exist for somewhat more than twenty years, and, though it was at last found to be too great a scheme to be maintained principally by private individuals, and fell accordingly into utter extinction, it is yet well known that this attempt was productive of a very beneficial influence upon the taste of the community, and that several artists, who have since attained to very considerable eminence, were reared under the auspices of this most patriotic institution.

About ten years after the decline of this establishment, viz. in the year 1786, another unsuccessful attempt to establish an academy of the fine arts in Edinburgh was made by some artists who had recently returned from the Continent of Europe, and who had been accustomed to witness the splendid institutions which are so numerous and beneficial in foreign countries. At the distance of five years from the period of this attempt, viz. in the year 1791, Mr Alexander Nasmyth made a similar fruitless endeavour to supply this important defect in the establishments of our metropolis. The institution which he projected was to have been denominated the Gallery of Art, and, as it was designed to have been supported by private contributions, it was intended chiefly for those who had already acquired a taste for the refinements of art, and was meant to support and perfect this taste among the better educated of the inhabitants of Scotland. Another attempt was made in 1797, which likewise failed; and, lastly, a public exhibition of the productions of our artists was opened in the year 1808, with the most promising appearances of success, but ultimately shared the fate of all preceding attempts, partly, as it is understood, from some misunderstanding among the artists themselves, and partly from the want of due encouragement on the part of the public. Of this last institution, however, the merits of which must still be fresh in the recollection of many of your readers, and which may be regarded, indeed, as the only general display of the powers of our artists that has yet been made, it is but justice to affirm, that, during the first years of its existence, it was supported with an ability and spirit, from which every friend of painting anticipated the most beneficial results, and that, although it necessarily suffered a diminution of brilliancy from the retirement of some of the leading artists during subsequent years, it had altogether a most important effect upon the taste of the country, and contributed to diffuse, throughout every class of the inhabitants, a very correct feeling, both of the comparative merits of our native artists, and of those principles which are universally applicable to the productions of the pencil.

It seems to me quite evident that some establishment similar to those the failure of which I have now been noticing, must exist in every enlightened country, as a centre from which a knowledge of the principles of art may be generally diffused. Some such establishment, in fact, is necessary to enable the artist to acquire that feeling of his importance, and that sense of his relation to the other members of the community, which are essential to a vigorous prosecution of his labours; because it is evident, that, so long as he works merely for his employers, without possessing an opportunity of exhibiting his productions, along with those of his most distinguished compatriots, to the notice of the public, he exists but as a hid-

den member of the community around him, as a being whose operations are confined to the seclusion of his study, with little relation either to similar individuals, or to the interests of the commonwealth to which he belongs. It is obviously under a very different aspect that the artist views himself, when his solitary labours are intended to augment the treasures of his country, and are destined to be brought into public competition with the productions of other masters. Every feeling, both of private interest and of public spirit is then awakened in all its activity; and, while the productions of the artist acquire a new dignity in his estimation, from their relation to the most valuable riches of the community, he is excited to expend upon them all the powers of his genius at once, by the recollection of the able rivals that surround him, and of the impartial examination to which his works must be subjected. It is also obvious, that it is only by bringing his own productions into comparison with those of other individuals, that the artist can acquire that correct feeling of the comparative merits of different styles, which is necessary to regulate his attempts at improvement. The finest genius, unless guided and corrected by an extensive observation of contemporary productions, will necessarily be subject to many irregularities and defects; and no individual can be expected to arrive at much excellence in his profession who is not in the daily habit of comparing his efforts with those of an extensive circle of ardent rivals, whose separate merits he may gradually appropriate, and whose peculiar defects he may make it his object to avoid. Such an establishment seems to be necessary, in the last place, for diffusing a taste for what is elegant over the great mass of the inhabitants of a country. A people who have no opportunity of examining those productions on which the masters of art around them have been employed, will necessarily remain in pitiable ignorance of all the first principles that are applicable to such subjects, and, what is decidedly a matter of far deeper regret, will be deprived of all that high feeling of the capabilities of their nature, and of all those meliorating influences upon the temper and habits, which the sight of the finer productions of art will be found to generate, more powerfully perhaps than any other cause, in the minds even of the lowest and least instructed of mankind.

The time, in fact, seems now to have arrived, when the existence of some such institution cannot long be dispensed with. Scotland, during the last fifty years, has been advancing with unexampled ardour in the path of improvement. In science and in arms she has already obtained the most brilliant trophies; and the only wreath which is yet wanting to her glory is that which is reserved for the "Mistress of Arts." The natives of this country have also displayed unequivocal talents for this species of excellence. Their public exhibitions have been considered, by very competent judges, as not inferior, on their limited scale, to any other within the British dominions. A crowd of accomplished individuals are now collected within this city, whose taste and genius in every variety of style are universally admitted. Many of the most celebrated artists in the capital of the empire are natives of this country; and the same impression of their superior talents, which Scotchmen have conveyed to our southern neighbours in so many other departments of manly accomplishment, continues to be maintained by the style of their productions in this fine branch of liberal pursuit. To the artists themselves, then, of this city, I should be disposed most respectfully to say, Let every feeling of jealousy or of private misunderstanding, which may hitherto have prevented the success of your endeavours to establish for your country a repository of art, be now resigned at the prospect of that mighty good which your steady co-operation is sure to produce. Assume, as a body, that prominent place in the eyes of your countrymen which your undeniable merits entitle you to hold; and remember, that, by thus conducting yourselves, you are achieving a great work, not merely for your private interest, but for the improvement of your country. And the inhabitants of this metropolis, who may be supposed to exercise a paramount influence over the taste of their neighbours, I would also earnestly exhort to co-operate with ardour in the same patriotic design; to patronize,

as far as their abilities extend, exertions which are intended for the general advantage; and, in particular, to abstain, by hasty observations, from casting a slur upon the productions of a body of men who may be supposed peculiarly sensible to the attacks of criticism, and who are exerting themselves for the accomplishment of a great national object.

I make this last observation with the greater earnestness, because I have long regarded the spirit of criticism, which is at present characteristic of the inhabitants of this metropolis, as presenting a subject of very curious speculation. All the world are aware what an unexampled tone of decision this spirit has assumed on the great subjects of literature and science. For a long period, too, the stage in this metropolis has been guarded from the intrusion of any audacious novelties, by an unfailing exertion of those damnatory powers which the lieges have reserved entire to themselves; and there is reason to believe, that the failure of so many attempts to establish a repository of the fine arts in this city may, in some degree, be attributed to the same cause. I will not, at present, endeavour to account for so remarkable a propensity in the natives of this country. They, of course, will naturally attribute it to their superior discernment, and better education, and those who have smarted under the lash of their chastisement, will as willingly attribute it to very different causes. But an impartial observer will probably suggest, that both these conclusions might be very advantageously modified, and that mixed considerations, as in all human concerns, are more probably the efficients than either superior taste or absolute folly. What I wish, however, at present more especially to remark is, that a very delicate regard to circumstances is at all times necessary, in order to render criticism subservient to its only legitimate purpose;—and that there is a vast difference between the state of *literature*, as it now exists in most of the countries of Europe, and the situation attained by the *fine arts* in some of the most enlightened of the European commonwealths. A very powerful hand may be necessary for repressing the tendency to hasty composition in an age when literature is an universal study, and when the greatest danger to which knowledge is exposed, may be derived from the very superabundance and fearlessness of its cultivators. But the arts require to be fostered and supported by all the care that is appropriated to productions which are reared with difficulty, and easily injured; and though it is neither possible nor desirable completely to repress the exertions of criticism, it ought never to be forgotten that the incision which may be both necessary and expedient for removing the luxuriancies of an overgrown tree, may injure the vital energy of a sapling, and if continued to be inflicted with an unsparing hand, may eventually expose the land to all the horrors of nakedness.

It is with much pleasure that I have lately seen the artists of this city assiduously employed in the study of those masterpieces of Grecian art which, during the last two thousand years, have commanded the universal admiration of mankind, and which have now been propagated by means of casts over most of the enlightened capitals of Europe. Copies of several of the most remarkable of these sculptures had been transmitted to this metropolis as materials of study to the youths who are educated in the academy of this place; and the very handsome manner in which these models were laid open to the artists by the eminent individuals who patronize the academy, demand the gratitude and thanks of the community. It is interesting, at the same time, to observe the effect which the first sight of these celebrated statues appears to have upon the minds even of the best judges. The severe and unadorned simplicity of Grecian taste is not readily appreciated by those who have been accustomed to that more vague expression which characterizes the works of all modern artists; and it is not till repeated study has discovered the animated but correct qualities of the productions of Greece, that Taste resumes its native simplicity, and Admiration joins that shout of acclamation which these wonderful monuments have so long commanded. Much will unquestionably be done for the perfection of art by the general study of these celebrated works. The very enthusiasm which the artist must necessarily feel while employed in

copying after the masters of Greece, and while contemplating those models which have so uniformly been admired, amidst every vicissitude of opinions and tastes, cannot fail to animate him to more successful exertions. A fine opportunity is also afforded him, by these models, of observing those correct proportions, and that resolute adherence to the truth of nature, by which the statues of Greece are so remarkably characterized,—and a conviction cannot fail to be produced by the same studies, that it is in an attentive observation of the appearances of nature that the artist must seek for that perfection in his line which it is the necessary object of his ambition to attain. Amidst all these advantages, however, it ought never to be forgotten, that there is a radical difference between the style of the ancients, and that which is most natural to our northern imaginations; and the following profound observation of Madame de Stael, the principle of which it is the object of most of her works to illustrate, ought to be familiar to the understanding of every artist. The ancients, says this accomplished writer, possessed, if we may be allowed the expression, a corporeal soul, and its emotions were all strong, decided, and consistent. It is not the same with the human heart as it is developed in modern times. If, continues the same author in another passage, if in our days the fine arts were confined to the simplicity of the ancients, we should never attain that primitive strength which distinguishes them, and we should lose those intimate and multiplied emotions of which our souls are susceptible. Simplicity in the arts would, among the moderns, easily degenerate into coldness and abstraction, while that of the ancients was full of life and animation.

I have thus rapidly delineated what I conceive to have been the progress of the art of painting in this country. I will not conceal from you, however, that my chief object in making these observations has been to draw, if possible, the attention of the community, and particularly of the artists, to the importance of forming some such repository of their productions as may at once be conducive to the progress of the arts, and form an object worthy of the attention of the many enlightened strangers by whom this metropolis is visited. I have not ventured to propose any plan for this purpose, because I do not profess to be sufficiently acquainted with all the circumstances, upon a consideration of which such a plan ought to be formed. I cannot doubt, however, that the country is now prepared for such an establishment, and leaving the manner of producing it to the judgment of those who are better acquainted with all the requisite considerations, I have only to express a hope that this important object will speedily be accomplished; and that this city, so celebrated in other respects, will, at no distant period, vindicate, in this particular also, its right to the title so often bestowed upon it, of being the "Athens of the North."

I am, Mr Editor, yours, &c.

L.

EXPENCE OF THE BOARD, CLOTHING, AND EDUCATION OF CHILDREN IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.

MR EDITOR,

The inclosed Report I think valuable and deserving of publication, although not of a very recent date. Some particulars in it are merely local, but others are of general interest. It is the only account I have ever met with of the expences of an institution for the board, clothing, and education of children, exclusively under the management of that respectable Society of Friends commonly called Quakers, and it may serve in some degree as a standard of comparison by which the public, or their respective managers, may judge of the profusion or economy in the conduct of similar institutions. To serve this purpose effectually, it would be necessary to know every thing regarding the object and extent of the institution. I can only state, that the children in the Ulster Provincial School were well clothed, well fed and educated; and that they received instruction in reading, writing, accounts, needlework, the service of a house and farm, besides acquiring habits of method, order, and subordination, qualifying them to be excellent servants or apprentices. From this report we see that all this may be done for the expence of L. 18, 6s. 4d. annually for each child; and we may rest assured,

that any institution, where any thing of the same kind is done for the same sum, or even a little more, is well managed; for as every person who has ever taken an interest in the management of public charities, knows well, men of no other class surpass the Quakers in applying the funds entrusted to their care in the most advantageous manner. It would be interesting to know the annual expence of the boys in Watson's and Heriot's Hospitals, of the girls in the Merchant and Trades' Maiden Hospitals, and of the children in the Orphan Hospital, and in the Charity Work Houses of this place. I do not expect that in some of these institutions the children can be boarded, clothed, or educated for L. 20 a-year, but in others, judging by what is done for the children, the expence should be less. VIATOR.

Sept. 1817.

Report of the State of Ulster Provincial School, for one year ending 31*st of* 12*th month,* 1813.

THE annexed statement of the accounts of the Ulster Provincial School was received at the yearly meeting, 1814, and referred to the consideration of a committee, who brought in the following report, viz.—

We have examined the Report of the state of Ulster Provincial School, for the year ending 31st of 12th month, 1813; and find, from the information laid before us, that the expenditure has exceeded the income in the sum of L. 103, 13s. 10½d.; and that there was due to the treasurer on that day L. 264, 9s. 1½d.; but that, since the account was made up, there was a subscription entered into by friends of that province, which has produced a considerable portion of said deficiency.

The average expence is L. 18, 6s. 4d for each child, being nearly the same as last year.

It appears that friends of Ulster, on considering the recommendation of last yearly meeting, to advance the bills of admission and continuance from three pounds to five pounds per annum, thought that, as a considerable number of the children were paid for by parents in straitened circumstances, it might have an effect upon such children being sent to the school, if the bills were advanced two pounds per annum; they therefore concluded to advance them at the present only to four pounds. The grounds upon which friends of Ulster appear to have acted, are approved of by the committee; but, in order to make the income sufficient, it is desirable that suitable endeavours be used to increase the amount of the annual subscriptions, by enlarging the subscription lists, even with names of friends who could afford to give but a small sum annually.

The friends that are now likely to have the charge of the family are all young; it is therefore desirable that a man friend of more experience should be procured, to have the charge of managing the farm, providing for the family, &c.

Signed by order, and on behalf of the Committee, 27th of 4th month, 1814.

JOSEPH FISHER (REUB.)

A Report of the State of Ulster Provincial School, for one year ending the 31*st of* 12*th month,* 1813.

INCOME.

Subscription from Grange monthly meeting	L.	16	13	9	
Ditto Lurgan do. -		54	5	4½	
Ditto Lisburn do. -		65	19	6	
Ditto David Malcolmson		5	13	9	
					142 12 4½
Interest on Leinster subscription - -		90	0	0	
Ditto Munster do.		78	0	0	
Ditto L. 1500 lent on bond and mortgage - -		90	0	0	
					258 0 0
Rent one year of holding in Lisburn - - -		32	19	2	
Ditto Lands of Breagh		36	11	4	
					69 10 6
Bills of admission and continuance - - -		131	9	6	
Farm and garden, profit thereon - - -		94	16	7	
Overtime of children -		2	14	0	
					229 0 1
					699 2 11½
Expenditure exceeds income					103 13 10½
					L. 802 16 10

EXPENDITURE.

Furniture for wear and tear -	L.	11	11 10
House expences - -		521	7 11
Clothing -		115	17 8½
Stationary - - - -		8	19 7
Salaries and servants' wages -		104	16 0
Repairs and alterations -		26	6 6½
Contingencies - - - -		13	17 5
Average number of children in the house this year, nearly 44.			
Expence of each child, about L. 18, 6s. 4d.			
	L.	802	16 10

An Inventory of the Estate and Effects belonging to, and Debts owing by the Institution.

BELONGING TO THE INSTITUTION.

Provision and fuel - -	L.	127	13 8
Farming utensils, cattle, &c. -		156	17 6
Carry over	L.	284	11 2

Brought forward	L.284	11	2
Furniture	220	5	5½
Clothing	54	15	9
Stationary	14	16	8
Due by Richhill monthly meeting	23	8	0
Ditto Grange do.	10	16	2
Ditto Lurgan do.	12	17	1
	L.611	10	3½

Signed on behalf of the School Committee, held the 5th of 3d month, 1814.
JAMES N. RICHARDSON.

OWING BY THE INSTITUTION.

To children in the house for unexpired time		L.68	0	0
To treasurer		264	9	1½
Balance in favour of the institution		279	1	2
Balance in favour of the institution last year	L.382 15 0½			
Decrease this year	103 13 10½			
Nett balance 31st of 12th month, 1813	L.279 1 2			
		L.611	10	3½

Read and approved by our quarterly meeting of Ulster province, held at Lisburn, 7th of 3d month, 1814, and signed by order thereof by
THOMAS GREER, Clerk.

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Children admitted since the commencement to 31st of 12th month, 1813	114	141	255
In the house 1st of 1st month, 1813	20	24	44
Admitted since to 1st of 1st month, 1814	2	8	10
	22	32	54
Returned home, and to places as apprentices and servants	3	8	11
In the house 1st of 1st month, 1814	19	24	43

AN ACCOUNT OF THE MISFORTUNES OF MRS ERSKINE OF GRANGE, COMMONLY KNOWN AS LADY GRANGE.*

MR EDITOR,

THE extraordinary case of Mrs Erskine, known by the title of Lady Grange, excited great curiosity about 80 years ago, and is yet very interesting on account of the mystery which attends it, and its apparent connection with the plots of those who were concerned in the rebellions which broke out in the years 1715 and 1745.

Her maiden name was Rachel Cheisly. She was a daughter of Cheisly of Dalry, who shot the Lord President Sir George Lockhart, in revenge for deciding against him a law-suit, which had been referred to his lordship and another of the judges as arbiters. She was a beautiful woman, but of a very violent temper. It was reported, that Erskine of Grange (a brother of the Earl of Marr) had seduced her, and that she compelled him to marry her, by threatening his life, and reminding him that she was Cheisly's daughter.

Mr Erskine's character is represented as having been by no means amiable. He was dissipated, restless, and intriguing; and was supposed to be concerned in some of the measures preparatory and subsequent to the rebellion in 1715, of which his wife was in the secret. His frequent journeys to London, and some of his amours there, gave her so much uneasiness, that she threatened to inform government of all she knew, unless he consented to give up plotting, and live quietly at home. He did not choose to comply with these terms; and he formed a plan, by which she was violently seized in her own house and dragged away. It is a remarkable circumstance, that, notwithstanding the noise which this barbarous and tyrannical act occasioned, no means were taken to bring the perpetrators to justice, though some of them were well known. Grange had the address to persuade the public and his connections, that his wife was a mad woman, who had frequently attempted his life, and that confinement was absolutely necessary. He used to shew a razor, which, he said, he had taken from under her pillow. She had two sons grown to manhood at the time she was carried off, and it was suspected that either one or both consented to it. Her daughter, by Mr Erskine of Grange, was married to the Earl of Kintore. None of her relatives ever made the smallest stir about the matter. The fate of Lady Grange, after her seizure, has hitherto remained uncertain, except that it was known she had been carried to St Kilda. I have, however, obtained a manuscript, which throws much light on this transaction. The MS. is a copy of another, partly written for Lady Grange, by the minister of St Kilda, and partly by herself.* This manuscript I now send to you, with this remark, that it was found among the papers of a gentleman who flourished at the time of the transaction to which it refers, and who never would have put into his repository any thing of the kind which was not authentic. Indeed, the internal evidence it bears, proves the authenticity of the narra-

* For this curious paper we are indebted to the same gentleman who transmitted Lord Lovat's Memorial, and other valuable communications, for the *Edinburgh Monthly Magazine*.—EDIT.

* I have understood that there are other copies in existence.

tive almost beyond question. During my inquiries in regard to this extraordinary transaction, I learned the existence of several documents which confirmed the story as narrated in the MS.; and also that some original letters of Lady Grange, which had found their way from St Kilda, had been recently in the hands of a bookseller in Edinburgh, from whom they had been purchased for the purpose of destroying them. It is not surprising that the descendants of the parties concerned should feel a desire to bury the story in oblivion, on account of the conduct which the narrative displays. But in matters of history, especially when the dispositions and manners of a people are interesting, private feelings must be disregarded. Nothing has yet appeared which exhibits in a stronger light than the following narrative, the ferocity not only of the Highland clans, but of a portion of their southern neighbours; and it is valuable, in so far as it proves the long duration of barbarism, and assists us to appreciate the astonishing rapidity with which civilization has proceeded in Scotland, and more particularly in the Highlands. Being myself a member of a numerous Highland clan, I am not ashamed to avow, while I lament, the savage state in which the Highlands were suffered to remain, till a Chatham arose to demonstrate the value of that lofty spirit of freedom, and of attachment to each other, which, while under no regulation but the caprice of a few chieftains, naturally resolved into hatred of their southern neighbours. Many of my name were concerned in the rebellions which agitated Scotland during the first half of the 18th century; and many may have been guilty of actions equally atrocious with that of which I now give you the details; yet I have no other feeling in connection with the past, than thankfulness for having lived to see the effects of the enlightened policy of Chatham, and that policy followed up by the liberality of the government towards the most remote districts of the empire, in opening up a country hitherto inaccessible, by roads and bridges, executed under the direction of the most able engineers. I am, Sir, your most obedient servant, GAEL.

"*January* 21, 1741.

"I, the unfortunate wife of Mr James Erskine of Grange. That after I had lived near 25 years in great love and peace, he all of a sudden took a dislike to my person, and such a hatred that he could not live with me, nor so much as to stay in his house; and desired me to subscribe a separation during his pleasure, which I thought was contrary to my vows before God; and that I dearly loved my husband. Both his friends and mine own were at a great deal of pains to persuade me, but I absolutely refused to subscribe it. At last, after much threatening, he got me out of the house; and I designed at that time to go straight to London; but some of my friends thought his temper might alter, and gave me your house to stay in, it being a little without the town, I desiring to live retired. After having lived some months there, I came into Edinburgh, and I took a chamber in a private house near to my lord's lodging, that I might have the pleasure to see the house that he was in, and to see him and my children when going out and in. I made both his relations and mine own speak to him, and some ministers, and was always in hopes that God would shew him his sin of putting away his wife contrary to the laws of God and man, and this was no secret; for the president of the session, and several of the lords, the solicitor, and some of the advocates and ministers of Edinburgh, knows all this to be truth. When I lost all hopes, then I resolved to go to London and live with some of my friends, and make myself as easy as I could without him. Having paid a part of my coach hire, and taken a leave of my friends and of the ministers, two days before I should have gone away, upon the 22d ——— 1732, after eleven o'clock at night, it being the Saturday evening, the house belonging to one Margaret Maclean, a Highland woman, she put the few she had in her house to bed, which were two Highland women, and a little servant maid, an hour and a half before ordinary. I had no servant with me in that house but a chamber-maid, and whether she was upon that plot, or whether the mistress put her out of the way, I know not. There came two men to the door, saying they had a letter for my lady, and the mistress of the house brought them to my room door, and then rushed in some

Highland men, whom I had seen frequently attending my Lord Lovat, and, if I well remember, had his livery upon them, who threw me down upon the floor in a barbarous manner, and I cried out murther. Then they stopt my mouth, and dang out several of my teeth, and I bled; and abused my face most pitifully with their hard rude hands, till there was no skin left on my face all below my eyes; for I was always putting out the cloaths as fast as they put in, being on the floor at the time, and I defended myself with my hands, and beat with my heels upon the loft, in hopes the people below would hear me. And then a near cousin of my Lord Lovat's lookt in at the door, and gave directions to cover my head, and tye down my hands with a cloath: they had wrestled so long with me, that it was all that I could breathe, and then they carried me down stairs as if they had a corps. I heard many voices about me; being blindfolded, I could not discover whom they were. They had a chair at the stair foot, which they put me in; and there was a man in the chair who took me on his knee, and I made all the struggle I could; but he held me fast in his arms, and hindered me to put my hands to my mouth, which I attempted to do, being tied down. The chair carried me off very fast, and took me without the ports; and when they opened the chair, and taken the cloth off my head to let me get air, I perceived, it being clear moon light, that I was a little way from the Multer's Hill,* and that the man on whose knee I sat was one Alexander Foster of Carssbonny, who had there six or seven horses and men with him, who said all these were his servants, though I knew some of them to be my Lord Lovat's. The names they gave them was Peter Fraser, whom I believed to be my lord's page. He came along with me and the chair, but did not ride with me. I believe it was he that set me on the horse behind Mr Forster, if I well remember, and they tied me fast with a cloth to Mr Forster; and there was three of my Lord Lovat's servants who rode along, one of them was called Alexander Fraser, and the other James Fraser, and his groom, whose name I know not. These were the names they gave them; but whether they were their proper names, I know not. Another that rode along was Andrew Leishman, a tenant in West Pomeise, which belongs to Mr Stewart, and had been tenant there this 26 years. I heard another of the horse was a young gentleman, my Lord Lovat's cousin. I heard so, but did not see him, for he kept out of my sight. Before they set me on horse, I showed how all the linens about my face was covered with blood, and that they had torn all the clothes upon my head, and torn out some of my hair, and blindfolded me; but the joggling of the horse shuffled up the cloaths off my eyes, so that I saw what way they rode with me, streight by the long way. I saw that I was at the back of the castle. They took me the streightest way to Lithgow; and it was a very frosty, cold, bitter night. I took stitches in my side, sitting in a constrained posture, and I begged Mr Foster to allow me to light a little till I was eased of my pains. Mr Foster cried to Sandy Fraser to stop my mouth again, for it was he that stopt my mouth when I was in my own room, and called me a damned bitch, that he would break my neck if I did not hold my peace, was he venturing his life for me. He took me a little beyond Lithgow. When he saw that day was approaching, he took me into a house which belongs to John Macleod, who is an advocate, whose servant had known of my coming, and met me with candles in their hands at the far end of the entry, and brought me into a very good room and fire on, so that they knew of my coming. I saw no servants in the house but two men and a woman, and told them whose wife I was, and that I was stolen; and he presently took me up stairs to a very good bed-room, which had a fire, and good linnings in the bed, which I looked to, and found Mr Macleod's name on them. They kept me there all day, and would not allow a woman to come up into the room, but set Sandy Fraser with me all the day; for which reason I would not throw off my cloaths for as wearied and cold as I was, Fraser was so barbarous and cruel. When it was night, about seven, he told me I had some more

* Where St James's Square is now.

miles to ride; and he took me down stairs by force, and tied me on the horse as I was the night before. He rode streight to Falkirk, and we met none on the way, it being the Sabbath night, which I thought very misfortunat, or else I would have cried out for help. He rode away by the south side of Falkirk, and through the Tore Wood, which way I knew all, having travelled it before. Some little after we left the Tore Wood, he rode a way which I knew not; and I was very weary, it being a bitter night. He said he was taking me to his own house, but did not tell me its name, and thought all along I did not know whom he was, a cloth being tied to his face, that I might not perceive it; and he brought me streight to Wester Pomeise, where he was factor for Mr Stewart, who is married to Brisbane of Bishopstoun's sister. He took me in through a laigh vault, and then into a room of the vault, the windows of the room being nailed with thick boards, and no light in the room; but in a little closet, a little slitt where a man could scarcely put in his hand, less than the thieves' hole in Edinburgh, and a very old ugly bed without a roof, a timber chair, with the half of the bottom in it; and there I was keept a closs prisoner for thirteen or fourteen weeks, not having liberty as much as go without doors; and two doors lockt on me, cross bars on the outside. The servant that waited on me there was an old gardener and his wife that he had provided, who had a meall garden in Stirling. His name is George Ross, and his wife's name Agnes Watt. He lived in Stirling many years, and had two sons and a daughter, who was frequently with their father, and saw me. Andrew Leishman, mentioned before, brought what meat and drink I needed, and all other provisions, such as coal and candle. He went always to Mr Foster, got directions about it. His wife served me in what things she could do about me. They have three daughters which his wife has born, and his eldest son, William Leishman. They keept me so long closs prisoner, that it endangered my health, and I grew sick, and Andrew told Mr Foster that he would allow me go out, and that he would not have a hand in my death; and then I was allowed to go to the high rooms, and to go to the court to get the air much against Mr Foster's will. The gardener was kept there for a scoury to dress the garden and the trees. Sandy Fraser was left with me the first three or four days, and then James Fraser was sent out to wait of me, for he would not trust me to the gardener; and he kept the key in his own custody day and night. My Lord Lovat came frequently through Stirling to Mr Foster, his house being within a mile of it; and Mr Foster went out and met him, to concert matters about me, and James Fraser, who waited of me, went with him. I was keept prisoner there till the 12th August, and then Peter Fraser, my lord's page, came and staid till the 15th. Mr Fraser came up then, and three Highlandmen with him, and took me out of the room by force; James and Peter Frasers carried me out, and set me on a horse behind the captain. It was about ten o'clock at night, and carried me away by Stirling; and when I offered to cry, they came with a big roll made for the use, to stop my mouth, and a cloth to tie about it to keep it in; and they carried me along by Stirling bridge, and after that I knew no more of the way. It was moonlight, and they rode till it was near day, and then took me into house. The captain, Mr Foster, went to the room with me, and sat a little with me, and never came near me after that. He gave the charge of me to one who called himself Alexander Grant, but I believe he feigned his name; he rode with me out of Pomeise that night's journey; Andrew Leishman and Peter and James Frasers were the rest of the company that rode, and a man who was our guide, called himself Macdonald, and told me he was born at Glengary's. Always when they took me out of any place, they did by force, and I bad them consider what they were doing in taking me away against my will. Whenever it was night, they set me on a horse behind Grant, who was nothing but a silly fellow, and he could ride before me; and then they set my Lord Lovat's footman, James Fraser, before me, and tied me to him, that I might not leap off; and rode all night with me, and brought me into General Wade's new way, I knew not how far in the Highlands. Whenever it

was day, they took me into a house, and kept me there all day, and when it was night, set me on a horse by force. And always when we came by houses, I attempted to speak, then they offered to stop my mouth. We rode all night, and again morning, with great difficulty, they found a barn to put me in; there they kept me all day, and it being far in the Highlands, by four in the afternoon, they set me on a horse again, and rode all night. Again Saturday they brought me to a Mr Forster, though he came not near me, always rode behind or before, and lodged always in the same place I lodged. Upon Saturday I saw him take horse, and his man with him. I look't out at a hole, and saw him. Again night they set me on a horse again, and carried me amongst the Highland hills, and rode till it was near morning, and laid me down on the grass, being very weary; and they rode all the Sabbath; the side of a hill, and the way was so bad, that it was not rideable, for they carried me in their arms; we were at an open shils all that night, and the next day the waters were so high, that we could not cross till it was near night, then they got me on horse and carried me to a place called Milltown, when preparations were made for me, that being the 28th day of the month. I was never in bed all the time since we came from Pomeise. With their rude hands they had hurt one of my breasts. I was kept there sixteen days, and all the company left me, but James Watson's herd. This was on my Lord Lovat's ground. They called the man of the house Andrew Fraser. Grant came on the of September, and set me on horse by force, at night, and put me in a boat, which was in a loch about a mile from Milltown. They crossed the loch with me, and James Fraser left me there some nights without, and some nights in byres. After we crossed the loch, and again the 9th of the month, at the evening, we came to a loch-side on Glengarie's ground. I should have been taken to Scoto's house, brother to the Laird of Glengary, whose wife is aunt to John Macleod the advocate, for the man who was to get me was one Alexander Macdonald, for I was to come to Scoto's house,* but they altered their minds, and ordered him to come to Lochnirn,* and wait for me on the 10th of the month, on the break of day, for fear of their being seen, for they were always in terrour. They dragged me by force, and I cried bitterly out; they were all Highlanders, and nobody understood me; and took me into a sloop, of which Alexander Macdonald was master, who is a tenant in an island called Hesker, belonging to Sir Alexander Macdonald, who told me he had been at Scoto's house, and seen my Lord Lovat's cousin, formerly mentioned; he was ordered to take me home to his own isle, and keep me there till further orders. I told him I was stolen out of Edinburgh, and brought there by force, and that it was contrary to the laws what they were doing. He answered that he would not keep me or any other against their will, except Sir Alexander Macdonald were in the affair. How far Sir Alexander is concerned in this I am not certain; but the man being poor and greedy of money, made him go beyond his own light. We lay long on the loch for want of wind, and young Scoto's son and his father's brother came into the sloop the time that the sloop lay in the loch. They came with design to see me, but not to relieve me. We came not out of the loch till the 19th day of the month, and then Macdonald, another son of Scoto's, came into the sloop, and had a long conversation with Alexander Macdonald. We were storm-stay'd by the way, and we were in hazard of being lost before we came to Hesker, which was a poor miserable island. Upon the 30th day of the month we came there. That day we came out of the loch there came in a son of Dornicks, called John Macleod, and William Toling, who lives on Macleod's ground, who before was merchant at Inverness, and Rory Macdonald, brother to Castletown, and they all understanding the language, I told them all my misfortunes; and William Toling said he was at Edinburgh the time I was stolen, and promised me he would tell Renkiller where I was to be taken. I was in the island Hesker ten months before I got bread, and suffered much cold and hunger, and many hardships and barbarous usage. I was in that strait al-

* Macdonald of Scothouse.

* Probably Lochhourn.

most I wanted stockings, shoes, and many other necessarys. And Macdonald said he had no orders to give me any meat but what they eated themselves; but had no orders for cloaths. After I was near a year in his custody, he said he would go and tell them from whom he got me, that he thought it was a sin to keep me, and that he would let me away, and that he had writ twice or thrice about what necessarys I wanted, but got no answer. When he came back he said he had seen Sir Alexander Macdonald, and said to him it was a sin and shame to keep me, for that he would keep me no longer. Sir Alexander said he was sorry that he had meddled in such an affair, and did not know how to get out of it, but discharged him to let me go till farther orders. Alexander said he was bidden treat me harshly, and do nothing but what was his pleasure, and to cross me in every thing. Though he got me bread, yet I was much more hardly dealt with than he had done the first year, and I thought it hard enough when he was in Sky, at Sir Alexander's, he told me he saw Alexander Mackenzie of Delvin's two brothers. I well remembered they are called Kenneth and John Mackenzies, and he pretended he told them he had me in his custody, for he made it not a secret. I often begged him to allow me to write to my friends the time I was with him, and that then I would be relieved, for he said he was discharged to let me write, or tell me the place of the world I was in. I was many months there before I knew whose ground I was on. I often begged him to tell the minister, who was one Mr John Maclean, and the name of his parish is the Weist, which is in the middle of the Long Island, and bordered with Clanranald's ground. I desired him to come and see me, and pray for the distress of my family. Mr Macdonald told me he answered it was his duty to pray for every body in distress; but if he could not come and see me, he had but an eight mile ferry to cross. But whether Alexander told him I was there, cannot be positive or sure. In May 1734, Sir Alexander Macdonald came to the Weist to set his land, and sent word to Alexander I was to be taken away from him very soon, and that he would allow no more board for me, therefore he should let me go with the first that came for me. It was but a small island, none in it but cottars, and his servants. Upon the 14th day of June there came a sloop to the Hesker, with John Macleod, tenant to the Laird of Macleod, in a place which they call North Town, in the parish of Harrioch, and brought a letter to Alexander. He showed me the letter to give up the cargo that was in his hands. The day before he got the letter he had been at the Captain of Clanranald's house, and had met with my Lord Lovat's cousin there, the Captain being married to his sister. John Macleod and his man were very rude to me, and hurt me very sore in the taking me away. Alexander Macdonald told me he knew not where I was going to, and John Macleod said he was taking me to the Orkney islands. The galley belonged to himself, but his brother Norman Macleod was manager of it. He was in such terror that it should be known that I was in his custody, that he now all his men. When I came to the island, I found it as I heard of it, a very desolate island, but nobody in it but natives of the place. John and his brother stayed a few days in the place, and by no means would confess from whom he got me, but I found out; what hand the Laird of Macleod had in it I am not sure. He left me in a very miserable condition, but had no provision for me but what the island afforded, and nobody to wait of me that understood me, but one ill-natured man who understood a little English, and explained to others what I wanted; and he was not only ill-natured, but half-witted, and one day drew out his durk to kill me. After being some time in this island, God in his good providence, who in all my distress has taken care of me, for which I have great reason to bless and praise him, where I found God much present with me for as desolate it is, comforting me, and supporting me in my long and heavy trial, a minister and his wife came to the island, to whom I am exceeding much obliged; and if it had not been for the care that he and she took, I had died for want of meat, for there were no provisions sent me but two pecks of flour, and what the place can afford, such as milk and a little barley knocked, and

that forced from them by threatenings, for the people is very poor and much oppressed. I have nobody to serve me but a little Highland girl;* and the minister and his wife must explain to her. He is a serious and devout man, and very painfull, and what time he can spare from his business he is so good as to come to see me. I am not sure whose hands this may come to, but if I be dead, I beg my friends may be kind to reward this minister and his wife, for he hath helped to preserve my life, and made it comfortable the time I lived. John Macleod abovenamed is tenant of this island. † I got the minister persuaded to write the account of the way I was stolen, and by whom, that he might acquaint my friends. He would not give me a pen to write any of them, but said he would do all for me that was in his power. When he went from this island, he resolved to go to Edinburgh, but he would not venture to carry this paper with him. But I gave him a bill on you and two others of my friends, that they might know where I was; but his life being threatened he left this island, and he was after hindered either to go to Edinburgh, or to write to any body about me. Since he came back to this island, he sent me word by his wife that he had burnt the bills I had given him: he is in such fear of his life and his uncle's. Some other of the ministers were angry at him for the care and the concern he had taken of me. He bade his wife get this paper from me that he might destroy it, that it might never come to light as written by him. Since I could not get paper to write so full an account as this, I thought it no sin to deceive her, and I burnt two papers before her, and bade her tell the minister now to be easy. I am not sure who of my kin and friends is dead, or who is alive; but I beg whosoever hands this comes first to, to cause write it over in a fair hand, and to shew it to all my friends."

The following notices are written at the end of the narrative.

"Grant had his felows.

"Scoto's wife aunt to Roderick Macleod, his father's sister.

"There sprang a leck in the sloop; we were in great danger.

"One of Lord Lovat's lyes which he said to John Macleod the young man of Dynwick, that I was going to kill my husband—you know that a lye.

"Sir Alexander Macdonald, at any time he wrote about me, the name he gave me was the Carop.

"I hear that Alexander Macdonald in the Hesker is dead. His wife is since married Logan Macdonald her tenant to Clanronald. She knows it was Lord Lovat and Roderick Macleod that stole me.

"The minister's daur saw me taken out of Mrs Margaret Maclean's house by Roderick Macleod—and he told Lady Macleod he said"—

This Roderick Macleod was Macleod of Muiravonside, who, it was well known, acted the principal part in the barbarous scene described by the sufferer.

From the above curious document, it appears that Lady Grange was at St Kilda nine years after she was taken from Edinburgh. When the author of the notice which precedes the narrative was at St Kilda, in the year 1800, he was informed by an old man, who remembered having seen Lady Grange, that she had been seven or eight years on that island. On making inquiry respecting what happened afterwards to this ill-fated woman, he was informed by a gentleman in Skye, that, in consequence of a dread of discovery, she had been removed to Assint, (the western district of Sutherland,) and from thence to Skye, where she died.

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* This person is yet alive in North Uist, and is upwards of 90 years of age. She was seen by Mr Campbell, author of Albyn's Anthology, who lately travelled into the remote parts of Scotland in search of ancient music.

† Her own hand begins at "I got."

HIGHLAND SCENERY.—DESCRIPTION OF A STUPENDOUS CATARACT AT LOCHLEVEN-HEAD, NEAR BALLACHELISH, ARGYLESHIRE.

MR EDITOR,

THE romantic scenery of some parts of the Highlands of Scotland is universally and deservedly admired. But at a time when so many are travelling merely for amusement, it is rather surprising, that the knowledge even of the existence of some of the greatest natural curiosities in the island, should still be confined to the few

neighbouring inhabitants. Of this being the case, I had lately a striking instance, when at Ballachelish in the western part of Inverness-shire, in the neighbourhood of which I saw some of the most striking scenery any where to be met with. As I have never seen any description of the beauties of that place, I shall trouble you with a short account of the adventures of a day I spent there, in hopes of its being useful to future travellers.

I had stopped all night at Ballachelish, and intended early in the morning to proceed southward through the celebrated valley of Glencoe. On looking out, however, I found that it rained a good deal, and that the hills were quite covered with mist, which would have rendered travelling alone in a country almost uninhabited very disagreeable. While hesitating whether to set out or not, I walked a short way along the banks of Lochleven, (an arm of the sea,) to see some of the slate quarries for which Ballachelish is celebrated. At one of these I found a man who spoke tolerable English, and who informed me that there were some waterfalls at the head of Lochleven more interesting than those of Foyers. Being in doubt whether I could depend on his account or not, I went and asked the landlord if he knew any thing of such falls. He confirmed the account I had received, and mentioned, that there were also several remarkable caves in that neighbourhood, but could give me no distinct description either of these or of the waterfalls. A gentleman who had been all night in the inn, on being informed of these curiosities, was as anxious as I was to see them. The landlord informed us that we could get a boat to the head of the loch, which was nine miles distant, and then we would not have far to walk. We soon procured a boat, and two men to row it, but we were obliged to wait for some time that we might go up with the tide, as in some places the current was such as would have rendered it impossible to go against it. At last, however, about eleven o'clock, we set out on our voyage of discovery, as we found good reason to call it.

As we advanced, the loch, which at Ballachelish was not above a quarter of a mile in breadth, expanded into a large sheet, the banks of which were ornamented with considerable quantities of natural wood. On both sides were high mountains, some of which seemed to rise almost perpendicularly from the loch, and were green to the tops. The whole of the scenery of this loch was grand, and the reflection that in its neighbourhood was the residence of Ossian, added not a little to its interest. Our boatmen occasionally sung us some Gaelic songs, to which they beat time with their oars, and which, although any thing but fine music, added considerably to our entertainment. About two or three miles from Ballachelish, we passed a small island called St Mungo's Isle. It had been formerly resorted to for a burial ground to protect the dead bodies from wolves, which were once very common in this country, and it is still used as such. One of our boatmen, whose name was Cameron, informed us, that at burials the pomp of feudal times is still in some degree preserved. He told us, that upwards of 4000 Camerons, of whom he was one, attended the funeral of a son of Mr Cameron of Fassfern, who was killed at Waterloo, and whose body was brought home for interment.

Not far from the island above mentioned, the loch suddenly contracted into a narrow channel, confined on each side by rocks of a slaty structure. Through this the tide was flowing with great rapidity, and carried the boat with almost the swiftness of an arrow. Beyond this the loch again expanded to a considerable breadth, and was surrounded on all sides, except the narrow channel through which we passed, by lofty and steep mountains, green to the tops, except where a craggy precipice elevates its rugged front in awful grandeur. On the south side of the loch we saw part of Glencoe, through which the Cona of Ossian pours its "thousand streams."

When within about two miles of the head of the loch, the boatmen put us ashore on the north side, telling us, that there was a "curious place" there which they would shew us. We accompanied them along the banks of a considerable stream, which runs into the loch, and soon arrived at a place where the water, confined on each side by high rocks, forms one fall of considerable height, besides

several small ones. But what rendered this particularly worthy of our attention was, the water having in five places quite near each other cut a passage for itself, leaving the rock arched above it, and thus forming five natural bridges.

With some difficulty we got at one of these, which was almost close to the principal fall. On going upon it we had a fine view of the water falling from a considerable height into an awful gulf immediately under our feet; but so narrow was the rock, and so near the water, that it was impossible to stand long on it without becoming quite giddy.

Having returned to the boat, we proceeded to the head of the loch, where we again left the boat and walked along the banks of another stream, on which we were told there was a fall. We had not proceeded far till we came in sight of part of this fall, where we saw a large stream of water precipitating itself a hundred feet or more over a perpendicular rock, into a deep chasm, the sides of which concealed the lower part of the fall from us. On getting to the mouth of this chasm, a grand view all at once burst on our sight. The water having gained an immense velocity in the part we had before seen, but which was now in its turn concealed by a projecting cliff, fell quite detached from the rock in an extended and foaming sheet, into the gulf below. The height of this lower part I supposed to be at least 500 feet. Wishing to see the whole fall at once, we endeavoured to get still nearer it. This was by no means an easy task, as the stream entirely filled the bottom of the chasm, and the sides were so steep that it was impossible to walk on them. We were therefore obliged to walk in the stream itself, which, though rapid, was not so deep at the sides as to stop us. After proceeding for some time in this way, sometimes scrambling over pieces of rock, and sometimes obliged to hold by twigs or bushes growing on the sides, to prevent ourselves from being carried down by the current, we at length arrived at a point where the fall could be seen to the greatest advantage, and we found it well worth all the trouble we had undergone to get at it. We were now surrounded on all sides, except the narrow chasm through which we had passed, by rocks so steep and so high, that we could only see a small part of the sky immediately over our heads. In the crevices of these rocks, some weeping birches had taken root, which must have been supported entirely by the spray arising from the fall, as there appeared to be scarcely any soil about them. But the fall was the grand object to which our attention was directed. The water, for about 100 feet or upwards, seemed just to touch the rock, down which it rushed with a velocity almost inconceivable; but below this it was entirely detached from the rock. On leaving the rock, the water, which was before confined and narrow, expanded into a broad and foamy sheet, and rolled in awful majesty into an abyss quite concealed by the clouds of spray which rose from it. Indeed, the water seemed to be quite broken, by the resistance of the air, into small particles, long before it reached the bottom, presenting the appearance of clouds of mist blown before the wind. In a few minutes we were completely wet with the spray, but we were too highly delighted to regard such a trifling inconvenience. In short, the freshness and verdure of the trees, scattered here and there among the cliffs, the wildness and height of the rocks, the foamy whiteness of the water, and, above all, its terrific thundering roar, all conspired to render this scene the most awfully sublime I ever beheld. We had no means of measuring the exact height of this fall; the boatmen informed us that they had once accompanied the factor of a neighbouring gentleman, who had measured it by taking a station as nearly as possible on a level with the top of the fall, and letting down a plumb line to the surface of the water below. They even pointed out the very tree from which they had let fall the line, —at a height, as they averred, of 1083 feet from the bottom. This, however, I think, must have been an exaggeration. I have no doubt that its height is above 500 feet, but it is impossible to judge with any tolerable accuracy in a place where every thing is on so grand a scale, and where there is no known height to judge from. At any rate, this fall is by far the grandest I ever saw, and vastly surpasses the celebrated Foyers, both in the height of the fall, and the quantity of water.

This fall has one peculiarity which is a considerable improvement to its appearance, which is, that its water, except when swoln with rains, is pure and transparent, and its foam, instead of having a reddish tinge from moss or any earthy substance, is of a brilliant pearly whiteness, which is finely contrasted by the blackness of the surrounding rocks.

We next went to visit some of the caves we had heard of. Our guides, after muttering Gaelic to each other for some time, at last confessed, that they did not know where to find the entrance to any of them. We, however, had the good fortune to meet a man who dwelt near the head of the loch, and who undertook to conduct us. He led us a good way up a hill, near the top of which, he shewed us a small hole in the turf, which proved to be the entrance to a very large cavern, and which could be quite concealed by a small quantity of heath. It was so dark, that we could not see the whole of it, but from what we saw, we judged that it was of great extent. We found that there was another entrance to it in the face of a precipice, which was so steep as to render the cave almost inaccessible from that quarter. Our guide informed us that at no very remote period this cave was the haunt of a gang of robbers, but their retreat having been at last discovered, the cave was surrounded by soldiers, and a party entered by the opening from the top. The banditti, however, made their escape by the other opening, of which the soldiers were ignorant.

We were next conducted to another cave, close by the side of a river. The entrance to it was in the precipitous bank of the stream, and so near it, that we were obliged to walk through the water to get at it. The mouth of it was very narrow, but it appeared to be of considerable size within. Our guide informed us, that a man who had been outlawed for some crime, lived for several years in this cave, going out at night to procure provisions, and keeping concealed during the day. At last having turned too bold, he ventured out in daylight, and was apprehended and executed. Although our guide either would not, or could not tell, us any thing particular about him, I was led to suppose, from what information we procured, that this had been Allan Breck Stuart, who was supposed to have murdered a Mr Campbell of Glenure. *

We now began to think of returning to Ballachelish, but were obliged again to wait for the tide. On this account it was very late before we got there. In the course of our excursion at the head of the loch, we saw large masses of marble, which might be wrought to great advantage. Great quantities of fine slates are quarried at Ballachelish and Glencoe, and sent to various parts of the kingdom. Porphyry and granite abound in this part of the country. Deer are frequently to be met with among the hills, and eagles build in some of the rocks. Upon the whole, we were highly gratified with what we had seen during this day, and I would recommend it to future travellers, by no means to pass Ballachelish, without paying a visit to Lochleven-Head. I am, &c. J.

REMARKS ON THE DEAF AND DUMB.

THE very unusual circumstance of a deaf and dumb woman appearing at the bar of our Supreme Criminal Court, accused of murder, and that too of her own child, having excited,

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* This murder happened soon after the rebellion in 1745, and excited much interest about that time, on account of a man being executed for it, who was generally believed to have been intirely innocent. The estate of Ardshiel, the property of a Mr Stewart, had been forfeited on account of his being engaged in the rebellion. Mr Colin Campbell of Glenure was appointed factor, and under him Mr James Stewart, a brother of the late possessor. For some time Campbell behaved with moderation, but afterwards, having turned out many of the tenants, he was shot when passing through the wood of Lettermore, on his way from Fort William, where he had been on some business. It was generally supposed that Allan Breck Stuart was the murderer. Mr James Stewart, however, was also suspected of having been an accomplice, and was apprehended, and tried at Inverary. Although it was proved that he was at home when the murder happened, and although little was proved against him, except that he had sent Allan some money, he was condemned and executed; but it was generally believed that he met with great injustice.

in no ordinary degree, the attention of the public, we beg leave to lay before our readers a few remarks, which have arisen from a consideration of that case, the history of which was shortly as follows: *Jean Campbell, alias* Bruce, a native of Argyllshire, born deaf and dumb, had long procured her subsistence as a wandering beggar. Cast upon the world without education and unprotected, it was naturally to be supposed she would fall an easy prey to any villain who might choose to take advantage of her helplessness; accordingly, we find her the mother of several natural children, and that her conduct in other respects was not the most proper. While leaning against the parapet of one of the bridges over the Clyde at Glasgow, on the 19th of November 1816, her youngest child, an infant about three years old, slipt from her back while asleep,—fell into the river, and was lost,—and it was to account for this accident that she was brought to the bar of the Court of Justiciary, being indicted for murder. On calling the diet, it was stated in bar of trial, that the prisoner had been deaf and dumb from her birth;—had never received any education;—and as having a *mens sibi non conscia aut recti aut mali*, she was literally without the pale of the law. As the case was not only novel, but highly important, the Judges ordered informations, and excellent papers were given in, both by the counsel for the Crown and for the prisoner.* The Lords decided that the woman, though deaf and dumb, was capable of pleading. The trial was proceeded in at Glasgow, and we rejoice to add, that the poor woman was acquitted, as it was proved that the loss of the child was altogether accidental.

The deaf and dumb form a very interesting part of the human species, and if we could succeed in drawing the attention of philosophers and men of science to a more minute investigation of their physical and moral defects, we are convinced that much of the former, and the whole of the latter, might be remedied; for, whether we examine the mechanical structure of the human body, or attempt to unravel the more abstruse properties of mind;—whether we consider man as a mere machine which is acted upon by external objects, and has a self-governing power, or look upon him as an intelligent being, possessing power and faculties superior to every other living thing, we shall still find that man is the noblest study of man, and that in this field there is enough to engage the attention of the most zealous inquirer, and more than sufficient to occupy him in every waking hour. It is not our intention, on the present occasion, to enter into any metaphysical discussion of the connection between mind and matter, or to canvass the opinions of men with regard to moral consciousness and innate or acquired ideas, though the subject, we must confess, is most inviting. We rather prefer dealing in facts, which every one has the power of verifying to himself.

All know that the mind is acted upon by means of the external senses, and that, when any one of these senses becomes diseased, or has never existed, one of the channels by which knowledge is communicated is shut up; and though every sense has its own particular modification, and no two individuals hear and see exactly alike, yet all in whom these senses are perfect, acquire their knowledge of external objects in a great measure by means of the eye and the ear. In man there is no proportion between the manifestations of his faculties and the perfection of his external senses; for though the acquisition of vocal speech in children depends almost entirely upon the sense of hearing, yet it does not follow that he who has the most acute ear is to be the most eloquent speaker. Nay, many persons possess a very acute sense of hearing, without being able to distinguish the harmony of sounds, or at least without being sensible to the beauty of music, whilst others who have rather a dull ear are alive to all the charms of melody. It is a work of labour to teach a child to speak even when all the senses are perfect, and, of course, is still more so when he is deprived of the power of distinguishing sounds. We have heard or read somewhere of an enthusiast who, anxious to ascertain what language a child would speak,

* It is our intention to notice the pleadings in this case more fully in an early number.

without being taught any, had his son, when a year old, shut up with a dumb nurse in a secluded house, which no one was allowed to approach who had the power of speaking. The child grew, and had attained his fourth year, without giving any signs of his being able to speak, when one day the father, while on a visit to him, was so much provoked by some occurrence as to utter an oath. The child caught the sound, and the words were recollected, and although the plan which had been so long persisted in was immediately abandoned, it was many months before the boy could be brought to repeat any other words than those of the abominable oath which he had first heard. We mention this anecdote merely to shew, that it is by practice we acquire the art of expressing our ideas in language, or vocal speech; and if the experiment was really made, it proves that language depends, in a great measure, upon imitation. Many individuals born deaf and dumb acquire the faculty of pronouncing every word of the language they are taught, but, from having no idea of sound, their accent is grating to our ears. They possess no means of regulating their tones, and, therefore, are not likely to make much progress in the art of speaking. Yet, though those born deaf will for ever remain dumb, unless instructed in speech, we are convinced that two children, with the senses perfect, if left to themselves, will form a language of their own, in which they would communicate with as much ease, though not perhaps to the same extent, as in any language they might be taught. Of this fact a remarkable instance has come within our own sphere of observation, which we are ready to authenticate by a more particular account of names and dates,—of the place where, and the time when, if necessary. A small farmer in the south of Scotland had a son and daughter, who were nearly of the same age; they lived in a sequestered spot, and at a considerable distance from any other dwelling. As the father and mother of these children had the labours of their farm to attend to, they were, as soon as they were able to walk, left very much to themselves. They slept together during the night, and were accustomed to spend the day in pursuing their childish amusements in the fields. Left, therefore, in a great measure, to their own resources, they had invented names for almost every object that came under their observation; and we have often listened for hours to their prattle, without being able to comprehend a single word they said. As they grew up, however, and mingled with the world, they soon lost every trace of the language of their childhood, though for many years they retained something of a foreign tone and accent.

The progress which we make in the acquirement of language is very slow, even with all our senses perfect; but in children, the gradation from simple sounds to compound sentences is little attended to. It is the frequent and varied repetition of the same word that first impresses it upon the tender memory of the infant, and the desire of imitation that leads him to articulate the sound which he has heard. Yet many months pass over before he makes use of any thing but simple syllables to express his wishes or his wants. It having been our lot, more than once, to be cast, as it were alone, among a strange people, whose language we were ignorant of, and without any means of acquiring it, except by the ear, we have felt what it was to study under such circumstances, and have studied what we conceive to have been the process we underwent in our infancy, and reflected on some of the difficulties which, even with the faculties matured, and the senses perfect, we had to undergo in bringing the organs of speech to give utterance to sounds so new to the ear. We can, therefore, form some idea of the labour of the instructor who attempts to teach the deaf to speak. It is much easier to teach them any written language, which, in fact, is only a different version of the language of signs, and dependant altogether upon the memory; but, as we cannot pursue this subject at greater length, we can only recommend, to such of our readers as may have an opportunity, to visit the institution in this city, which is under the superintendance of Mr Kinniburgh, and which is open to the public every Wednesday, between the hours of twelve and one. This institution was formed, in 1810, by a few of our benevolent fellow-citizens, and has been liberally

supported by the voluntary contributions of several of the nobility and by annual subscriptions. There are now fifty pupils in the house; and the progress which many of them have made in every branch of useful education is truly astonishing. At the same time that their education is going on, several of the boys have been bound to trades, by which, in after life, they will be able to gain a livelihood; while the girls are instructed by Mrs Kinniburgh in sewing, knitting, and household affairs, so as to render them useful as well as intelligent members of society.

Every day adds something new to our stock of knowledge, which tends to shew, not only how little we know, but often how ill able we are to account for or explain even that little. The auditory nerve, which is the medium of communication between the mind and the external world, in as far as that communication depends upon the sense of hearing, is found in all animals, from man down to the lowest scale of fishes; and, even when an organ of hearing has not been distinguishable, it is evident that the animals are endowed with this sense. We may state it as a general law, that the apparatus of hearing becomes more complex in proportion as the organ approaches to perfection. This is the case with regard to the external as well as to the internal ear. Many animals hear better than man, and in them we find that the apparatus upon which the simple transmission of sound depends is also more perfect than it is in the human species. Newborn children are perfectly insensible to sound, for in them the sense of hearing is not yet active. It improves by degrees, and in proportion to the developement of the organs. But the deafness of old people does not depend so much upon the blunted sensibility of the nerve as on the general decay of the auditory apparatus. In young and healthy persons, anatomists tell us the auditory nerve is expanded in a humour which occupies the cavities of the internal ear; but in old people this humour is diminished, and the nerve itself becomes of a shrivelled and shrunk appearance.

These observations naturally lead us to inquire into the nature of perfect deafness. This, we are told, depends either upon a deranged or diseased state of the component parts of the external or of the internal ear, or (what we conceive will be found most frequently to be the case) of the auditory nerve in its connection with the brain, or in its passage to or expansion upon the parts which form the organ of hearing. It is very seldom that we can discover any difference between the external ear of those who are deaf and those who hear. In some cases deafness may depend upon a diseased state of the brain itself; but in such instances the other external senses are also blunted or deficient, and the individual belongs to the worst class of idiots. It is to be regretted that the pathology of the ear has not met with the degree of attention which it justly merits; for deafness, as a congenital affection, is very frequent in this country. Our labours hitherto have been chiefly directed to the procuring of a remedy for the dumbness, or that want of the faculty of speech which is the natural consequence of being born deaf; and the extent to which these labours have been successful we have already endeavoured to point out, as well as to state some of the difficulties which those who have attended to it have had to overcome. Those who are dumb, merely because they are deaf, are observed in general to have the organs of the other senses in a very perfect state. They are endowed with a more than ordinary share of intellect, and hence the facility with which difficulties, in ordinary circumstances almost insurmountable, are overcome with regard to them.

So far back as the 16th century, one Pedro de Ponce, a Spanish Benedictine Monk, is celebrated for having instructed the deaf and dumb, and for having taught them to speak. But we read no where of any great effort that has been made, either in ancient or modern times, to cure deafness. In this country, the earliest instructor of the deaf and dumb was Mr Thomas Braidwood, and he is said to be the first person in Great Britain who opened a regular academy for that purpose; but such were the prejudices of parents and guardians, if we are to believe the report of the times, that he found more difficulty in convincing them of the possibility of instructing the deaf and dumb, than in

communicating knowledge to the individuals themselves.

We know it is the opinion of some, that deafness, like many other diseases, is hereditary; but if we are to judge from the facts which have come to our knowledge, we should be inclined to give a different verdict. We are aware, that there is one distinguished family in this kingdom, in which it has been traced to something like an hereditary descent, generally passing over one generation, and appearing in the second; but this is a solitary instance, while we can produce hundreds of families in the kingdom, in which there are one or more deaf children, and with regard to whom there is not the smallest trace of any of their ancestors having laboured under a similar defect. Our own decided opinion is, that the occurrence of deafness is altogether accidental, and owing to the position or state of the fœtus *in utero*. Some say it is owing to the effect of impressions upon the mind of the mother during the period of gestation, and we know that many mothers are decidedly of this opinion. We will allow that such impressions may have a *mediate* effect upon the state or condition of the child, in altering its position, or in the change of relative parts. But it is too absurd to suppose, that they can have any immediate effect, or tend in any other way to produce the complaint. To those who are inclined to pursue this subject, we would mention, that there is something peculiar in the form of the heads of deaf and dumb persons. They are all more or less elongated and compressed at the sides. In some this conformation is more evident than in others; but in so far as we have had an opportunity of observing, it prevails universally in all cases where the external ear is perfect. From the information which we at present possess, we believe there are several hundreds of individuals in Scotland who were born deaf, consequently dumb; but on this subject we shall have accurate information as soon as the valuable report on the state of the poor, which was ordered by the last General Assembly, is completed. Of upwards of two thousand idiots in the kingdom, not more than thirty or forty are deaf and dumb; and what is rather singular, there are more idiots dumb without being deaf, that what may be considered dumb from being deaf. We would also mention another fact which seems pretty well ascertained, namely, that if the first child of a family is born deaf, one or more of the succeeding children will have the same defect; and although there are instances where a deaf and dumb father has had a deaf and dumb child, yet it more frequently happens that there are two, three, four, and even five children in the same family born deaf and dumb, without there being the least reason to suspect that it had ever occurred in any of their progenitors. We will only mention the poor woman whose case gave rise to these rather heterogeneous remarks. She was the mother of three children, who were born with all their senses perfect. Her sister, who is also deaf and dumb, is the mother of two, yet none of them have any defect in the organs of hearing; indeed, we do not know of a single instance where a deaf and dumb mother has produced a deaf and dumb child, though we do not hesitate to say, that they are just as likely to have children with this defect as other women; they are as liable to be of that form and make which prevents the developement of the head of the fœtus, in a lateral direction, as other females.

It was long, and still is, a prevailing opinion among the common people of this country, that dumb persons possess the power of seeing into futurity, and can foretell, with much certainty, the fate of individuals. This knowledge of "coming events" is to be ascribed altogether, we imagine, to the unusual degree of intelligence which, as children, they possess, and to that superstition which is natural to the uninformed mind. We once knew a dumb sybil, who was supposed to be wonderfully gifted with the art of divination; and shall conclude this paper with an account of the circumstance upon which her celebrity was founded. Though only a child of seven years of age, she was sitting at supper with her father and mother, and a few friends, who had spent the "fore-sipper" in "cracking with the gude man," as was customary for neighbours some fifty or sixty years ago, when two honest farmers called in, on their way home from the market, where they had been

disposing of some of their superfluous stock. From the moment they entered the house, *Mary* seemed to eye them with a kind of melancholy attention. She made signs to her father to insist upon their remaining all night, and seemed very urgent that they should occupy her bed. They, however, paid no attention to the "dumb wean's" whims, but set out on their journey homewards. They had no sooner left the house than *Mary* burst into tears. She made a hole in the ashes on the hearth similar to a grave, and intimated, by her cries and gestures, that the hour of these two men was at hand. About a mile from the house of Mary's father, they had to cross a river, and, as she had foretold, the passage-boat was overset by a sheet of floating ice, and they were both drowned. The actions of the dumb girl had such an effect upon her father and his friends, that they, fearing some accident was to befall their acquaintances, left the house and followed them with the intention of prevailing upon them to return back; but, though they made every possible haste, they only reached the banks of the river to witness the last struggles of the unfortunate sufferers, and to assist in searching for their lifeless bodies. Such is the tale we have often been told by one who was a witness to the whole circumstances, and who, as long as *Mary* was in life, was a firm believer in her supernatural powers.

REPORT ON THE PRESENT STATE OF FEVER IN EDINBURGH.

MR EDITOR,

I SHOULD very willingly comply with your request to contribute a periodical report upon the diseases prevalent in Edinburgh, if I considered myself competent to the discharge of such a task, and if I could satisfy myself that such a report would be either useful or fit for a Magazine, which is intended for general readers. I am very far from thinking that the profession should be wrapt up in mystery, or that all access to some acquaintance with its principles should be denied to the general reader. But much discretion must be used in introducing medical discussions into a popular work, not only on account of the indelicacy which is often inseparable from them, but also on account of positive bad effects which may arise either from spreading unnecessary alarm through the country, or from misconceptions of statements or misapplication of instruction by the half informed.

Popular medical instruction should be confined to what may be called *preventive medicine*, or a knowledge of the means of preventing disease, and checking it at its first approach, and to the correction of vulgar errors. For a Magazine occasional communications of this kind are well fitted, when there is reason to dread the introduction of a contagion, or during the prevalence of an epidemic, or when a hurtful practice is generally adopted. But to write a monthly or quarterly report of the diseases prevalent in Edinburgh, or any other large city, would be a *task* indeed, utterly useless, or worse than useless. The state of health in Edinburgh varies with the season, with the abundance or scantiness of the means of subsistence, with the introduction of a contagion, and some other general circumstances. But still that diversity is not such as to furnish matter for a series of popular reports for a succession of years. They would soon become uniformly uninteresting, or at least a mere repetition of what was formerly written, or would be filled with irrelevant and inappropriate discussions. I am aware, that, in opposition to this opinion, the admirable reports of Dr Willan upon the diseases of London may be quoted, which were inserted in the Monthly Magazine with so much success, that every Magazine now must have its medical report. But every physician is not a Dr Willan, and, accordingly, the effusions of many of his followers or imitators, are romances, dreams, or any thing but a true report of the diseases of the city which they profess to describe. To this censure there are certainly some honourable exceptions, but they are written for the profession, not for the public. The fact is, Dr Willan wrote for the profession, and his reports, collected into one volume, have become a valuable addition to the library of the physician. But even Dr Willan did not write a report of the diseases of London, but only of his own practice in the General Dispensary and in private, and this is all that any reporter

can write from his own knowledge; so that a very different view of the diseases of the same place and period may be given, as the reporter is a person of great experience, and sees nothing unusual in the present times, is in practice in high or low life, or is an active practitioner attached to an Hospital or Dispensary, or writes from books more than from patients.

After such a preamble, it may seem inconsistent to send you a professional communication; but at present I wish to correct some vulgar errors, and to disseminate, through the medium of your Magazine, some precepts of preventive medicine.

A considerably greater degree of alarm has been spread among the higher classes of society, concerning the prevalence and danger of a fever in Edinburgh, than I think is necessary or well-founded; and, on the other hand, the lower classes are, as usual, too indifferent about the means of preventing it. The subject suggests a few questions, which I shall endeavour to answer.

Is fever unusually prevalent in Edinburgh? The answer to this question is not so easy as might be supposed. If we were to refer to the books of the Royal Infirmary and Dispensaries, the answer would undoubtedly be in the affirmative;* but if we refer to the private journal of practitioners not connected with public institutions, it might be doubtful. There are several reasons to explain why fever appears to be so much more prevalent at present than in past years;—the greater attention paid to the state of the sick poor, both by the Dispensaries rivalling each other in doing good, and the increased exertions of the active and humane Society for relieving the destitute sick. The consequence is, that almost every case of fever is brought to light, and is made a subject of conversation and remark in the circles of our active philanthropists. Next, the sick are no sooner discovered than, very properly, they are furnished with recommendations for admission into the Royal Infirmary, and advised, and often reluctantly induced to go to that useful asylum, which, we are happy to be informed, has, up to this time,* received every fever patient who has come to the waiting room, although, from the extraordinary exertions in sending in patients, it would not be wonderful if their accommodation and funds should have proved insufficient. From this cause, therefore, it is possible to account for the greater number of fever patients which have been received into the Royal Infirmary during the last twelve months, without any actual increase of the frequency of fever in Edinburgh. It is well known to practitioners, that this city is never altogether free from continued fever;† that it is always lurking in the

* Number of fever patients dismissed from the Royal Infirmary during each month of the present year.

	Cured.	Died.	Total.	One Death in
January	19	3	22	$7\frac{1}{3}$
February	17	0	17	0
March	18	1	19	19
April	38	2	40	20
May	34	4	38	$9\frac{1}{2}$
June	26	1	27	27
July	33	3	36	12
August	39	3	42	14
September	49	3	52	$17\frac{1}{3}$
October	53	1	54	54
	326	21	347	$16\frac{11}{21}$

The deaths from fever in 1815 and in 1816 were *twelve* in each year, but the number of fever patients dismissed cured in these years could not be ascertained.

* This was actually the case when this report was drawn up. But on the 25th of October the female wards were quite filled, and it was necessary to refuse the admission of a girl labouring under fever. Since that time, however, fever patients have been almost daily admitted and none refused. Several wards, besides the usual fever wards, have been appropriated to fever cases, and every exertion made to meet the pressure. It must also be remarked, that it has frequently been very difficult or impossible to dismiss the convalescents when they became no longer proper objects for an infirmary, especially the Irish and other strangers, from the total indigence of many of them, and their inability to work, so as to gain the means of even a scanty subsistence. In some instances, also, patients were detained a few days longer in the hospital, in consequence of the Society for relieving the destitute sick being engaged in cleaning and purifying their houses.

† The same may be said of almost every large town. In proof of this, we refer to the Report of the Fever Hospital in Dub-

narrow closes and lodging houses of the poor; and that, from time to time, it has always increased to a lamentable degree of frequency. But formerly a very small proportion of the unhappy sufferers by it thought of going to the hospital, and there was no organized society for sending them in. For more than twenty years I have known continued fever always to exist, and often to a very great degree, in Portsburgh. I have examined the district, by the desire of the gentlemen connected with the House of Industry, with a view to get some of the dunghills removed, and found fever in almost every house. Upon one occasion, I remember visiting a close where almost every individual was ill, and in one house I found seven children affected, the father having gone to the hospital, where he died, and the mother only able to be out of bed, with the precursory symptoms upon her, and not a neighbour able to lend assistance; and yet, upon these occasions, the public in general heard nothing of the prevalence of fever. The knowledge of the misery it occasioned was confined to the attending practitioners and a few active philanthropists. In spring 1816, every one of the children in the West Kirk poor-house, about 160, was attacked with fever, of whom two died, and between 30 or 40 of the aged poor, of whom more than a third died, yet its existence was scarcely known, except to the managers and officers of the charity. In the autumn of 1816, every child in the City Charity Work-house, 200 in number, was affected with fever, none of whom died, and about fifty other individuals belonging to that institution, of whom about one in twelve died. But, during this present season, not one person in either of these extensive asylums for the poor has been affected; nor, so far as I have been able to learn, has fever occurred in any other of the public institutions in which numbers of individuals are collected together for the education of the young, or for the relief of the aged. Therefore, from the mere increased number of admissions to the hospital, I would not positively conclude that there was an increased prevalence of fever.

Another reason why the public believe that fever is more prevalent is, that it has caused several deaths in the higher classes of society. This mortality is, I believe, extraordinary, and, so far as I can learn, during the present year, a larger proportion of deaths than usual has taken place among the rich, not only in Edinburgh, but all over the kingdom, and every death in this rank of society is known, and excites general lamentation and fear. But occasionally fever has been prevalent to a considerable degree, especially among the students of medicine. The present Professor of the Practice of Physic in the University mentions, in his lectures, an epidemic of this kind, which was the reason why the clinical lectures were transferred from the hospital to the University; and when I was student it prevailed epidemically among us for two successive years, in one of which upwards of thirty students and three clinical clerks, of whom I was one, were seized within a short time. In one year eleven medical students died of fever. Nothing comparable in extent has occurred among the students this year. I do not, however, mean to deny that fever has been, and still is, rather more prevalent than usual. I only wish to state my reasons for thinking that it is generally believed to be much more prevalent than it really is.

Is the continued fever at present in Edinburgh more malignant or severe than usual? To this question I am happy to be able to answer decidedly No. On the contrary, it may be rather denominated *slight*. The reports of its unusual malignity have arisen partly from the circumstance already alluded to, that several persons of the

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lin, by which it appears that the patients admitted were in

Years.	Numbers.	Average Deaths, One in
1804	422	$13\frac{2}{11}$
1805	1028	$10\frac{1}{97}$
1806	1272	$12\frac{27}{41}$
1807	1092	$11\frac{30}{31}$
1808	1072	$11\frac{9}{42}$
1809	1056	$13\frac{13}{20}$
1810	1774	$11\frac{14}{79}$
1811	1478	$12\frac{94}{113}$
1812	2273	$13\frac{4}{21}$
1813	2620	$10\frac{52}{103}$
1814	2398	$16\frac{113}{241}$
1815	3787	$19\frac{140}{191}$

higher classes of society, and some of these under circumstances of extraordinary interest and regret, have fallen a sacrifice to it, and partly from a misconception of the meaning of the denomination *Typhus*, as applied to it by some medical men. In consequence of the theoretical opinions of Dr Cullen and Dr Brown, the idea of malignity, to a greater or less degree, was attached by them to the term Typhus, and *typhoid* was used to designate that state of fever in which the powers of reaction, or of vitality, were deficient, as characterized by the presence of certain symptoms, and with them typhus and typhoid were always associated with danger. But typhus is now used by many physicians, and I think more correctly, as a proper name to designate a particular kind of continued fever, (the common continued fever of this country, capable of being communicated by contagion,) without any reference to its degree of mildness or severity, so that they speak of a slight or severe typhus; and, according to this understanding of the term, I would say that Edinburgh is never altogether free from typhus; and that the typhus of this year has been, among the lower classes, milder than usual, although it is seldom very severe in Edinburgh.

Is the fever at present in Edinburgh contagious in its nature? This is a question of the greatest importance to the community, because an erroneous opinion on this point is attended with great and public evils. It may either cause unnecessary alarm, or prevent the necessary precautions for arresting its progress from being taken. To those not of the profession, or unacquainted with its controversies, it may appear strange that there should be any dispute whether any disease be contagious or not; yet it so happens that this most important fact is still unascertained with regard to the greatest number of the most important diseases; and the doubt does not arise from want of observation, but from the difficulty, perhaps the impossibility, of analyzing the various circumstances and conditions of the propagation and generation of disease. Thus, we find plague, yellow-fever, puerperal-fever, ague, dysentery, chincough, influenza, consumption, as well as our typhus, maintained to be indubitably contagious by some physicians, and as positively declared to be certainly not contagious by others, and both parties appeal for the truth of their opinions to their own personal and abundant experience. As far as my experience goes, and as far as I am able to judge from the facts I have witnessed and read of, I am inclined to think a kind of middle opinion to be the true one in regard to typhus, viz. that it sometimes proceeds from the concurrence of occasional causes of disease independent of contagion, such as fatigue, want, distress of mind, intemperance, cold, foul air, &c. and that it more frequently is propagated by contagion or effluvia generated in and emanating from a person labouring under the disease; in short, that typhus is sometimes primary, sometimes propagated. But while I thus believe typhus to be a contagious disease, for the effluvia of even primary typhus are capable of communicating the disease, I also believe that it is only contagious under certain conditions and circumstances, or that it is not what may be called a very contagious disease. I believe that it is most easily communicated in a confined and foul atmosphere, where many diseased persons are collected, and to persons previously debilitated by fatigue, want, &c.; that it acts only at a very limited distance from the diseased person, and that it requires exposure to its influence to be continued for a certain length of time. Further, many persons, especially those who have already passed through the disease, seem to be proof against, and capable of resisting it under every circumstance. If these opinions be correct, there are sufficient grounds for taking due precaution to prevent the propagation of disease, while, on the other hand, there are no grounds for general alarm. The fever is sufficiently contagious to suggest the impropriety of unnecessary exposure to the effluvia proceeding from the bodies of the sick, but not so highly contagious as to deter us from giving them every attention and assistance which may be useful to them, or to authorize any harsh or hurtful regulations for cutting off all communication with the diseased.

I shall conclude these observations, already perhaps too long, with requesting you to insert the following

"*Instructions, drawn up under the direction of the medical gentlemen*

of the Fever Hospital in Dublin, in order to prevent Infection.

"*Signs of Fever.*—For one or two days the person affected cannot bear exertion, loathes food, sometimes vomits whatever is taken into the stomach; a general sense of uneasiness, rather than pain, is felt; a wish to lie down, yet a restlessness when in bed, or sometimes sleepiness.

"To these succeed shivering, with a sense of coldness, while to a bystander the skin feels hot; thirst, pain of head and back, and very generally a feel of weight about the stomach.

"*Treatment.*—At any time within the first three days, give a vomit of hippo, (Ipecacuan,) mixed in a tea-cup full of warm water, and work it off with thin oatmeal gruel. If the belly be costive, give a common house clyster, and repeat it every day, if necessary. Let the drink be two milk whey,* or thin gruel, to each quart of which add a tea-spoonful of cream of tartar. No other medicine or food should be given till signs of weakness, or a cool skin, with appetite, come on. In the former case give a little wine or weak punch; in the latter, frumenty and milk, which should be very *cautiously* and *gradually* changed to more nourishing diet during recovery, as relapses are often the consequence of over-eating at this period.

"If fixed pain be felt in the breast or any other part, a blister should be applied over it. The face and hands should be washed and kept clean with warm water and soap, and the bed-clothes kept clean; the apartment should (at every stage of the fever) be kept cool, and with as few persons besides the attendants as possible. Should a great disposition to sweat appear within the first five or six days, the room should be kept cool, but still not warm.* During the whole sickness the floor and clothes should be frequently sprinkled with vinegar.

"N. B. Bleeding should hardly ever be employed, (unless prescribed by a regular medical attendant.)

"*To guard against Infection.*—Immediately after the recovery, removal, or death of the patient, let all the doors and windows be thrown open, and remain so for several hours.

"Let the house or room be immediately cleansed; all dirty clothes, utensils, &c. should be immersed in cold water. The bed-clothes, and all clothes used by the sick person, and every one about him, should also be steeped in cold water, then wrung out and washed in warm water, with soap; and every box, chest, drawer, &c. in the house or room, should be emptied and cleansed.

"If you lie on straw beds, let the straw be immediately burned, and fresh straw provided, and the ticken steeped in cold water, and dried well before it is used again; and let your beds, of whatever kind, be exposed to open air as much as possible for a week.

"Whitewash all your rooms, and the entrance to them, with lime, slacked in them, and while it continues bubbling and hot.

"Scrape your floor with a shovel, and wash clean both it and your furniture.

"Keep yourself in open air as much as possible for a week.

"Wash your face, and hands, and feet, and comb your hair every morning at least.

"N. B.—The benefit of this advice you will soon feel, and, persevering in your attention to it, will, under God, preserve you from all the variety of wretchedness occasioned by infectious fevers. Attend to it then with spirit and punctuality, for be assured, that cleanliness will check disease, improve your health and strength, and increase your comfort."

A. D. *J.*

* An excellent drink commonly given to fever patients in Dublin, composed of equal parts of sweet and butter milk. The former is made to boil, and then poured upon the latter, when the curd of both is coagulated and easily separated from the light and grateful whey.

* This is evidently a *misprint*. It should evidently be, "the room should not be kept too cool, but still not warm," or, "the room should be kept cool, but still not cold."

REVIEW OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

The Round Table, a Collection of Essays on Literature, Men, and Manners. By WILLIAM HAZLITT. 8vo. 2 vols. 1817. Constable, Edinburgh, Longman, London.

Characters of Shakespeare's Plays. By WILLIAM HAZLITT. 8vo. pp. 352. London, 1817. Hunter and Ollier.

JOSEPH SCALIGER said, "Les Ecossois sont bons philosophes." The *terra incognita* of the intellectual world has much decreased since the time of that literary hero. Without vanity, or weak national feelings, we may aver, that the Scots have had their share in this desirable improvement; and have continued to merit his encomium by keeping pace at least with the march of genius elsewhere. To ascertain the limits, and appreciate the varieties of human genius, is a task which, without meaning or pretending to offer a hint on it ourselves, we venture to assert has not been often or happily attempted by the mercurial wits of our day. In the plenitude of their powers, they have found this task, so flattering to the pride of intellect, rather extensive and laborious for them. Our own countrymen afford, we think, a good subject for this kind of distinctive delineation. Though reckoned still philosophers, they are not particularly rich in that kind of acquired knowledge which is called scholarship; and, though rather indisposed either to such exertions as tend to those acquirements which constitute the *learned* character, or to the admiration of them in other people, are not deficient in pursuing truth through a long train of research, nor in eliciting it, by that power of the mind which is exerted in the act of generalization, from the accumulated labours of those who have gone before them. As a nation of talkers and disputers on religion and politics, they have been remarkable for "that unsettled speculative mode of conversation" of which Johnson complained. In their set reasonings, they are perhaps too contemptuous of facts, and too eager to get at a conclusion before the proper time. We have been tempted also to think that this did not arise so much from the sanguine quickness and vivacity in which they have been compared to the French, as from a stark love of paradox. This affection for hypothesis, as the sad experience of many of our neighbours can attest, would appear to be inherited from the very mother's milk sucked in by Scotsmen. To say merely that Scotsmen are fond of theory would not be enough. The plain matter of fact men are, after all, the most inveterate theorists of any. It is that sort of deception, even in extremes, and thinking to catch truth by processes equally short and safe, which leads people to like *this* and *that*, without the trouble of giving the *why* and the *wherefore*. By those, therefore, who boast of their own caution in reasoning, and constant attention to facts, it is certain that the venerable name of Theory has been much abused by a too constant application of it to the casual and careless lucubrations of men like-minded with our countrymen. Thus are we led to characterize whole classes of men by a few high-sounding words, merely because they are a little more inquisitive than ourselves, and because they may thus happen to take a longer or more circuitous route for coming at the truth. We forget, all the while, that they adopt a most excellent process for opening up new directions, or framing unexpected combinations, of thought. More than all the speculative faults of our countrymen could be forgiven them by their free-souled neighbours, provided they were a little less exclusive in their intellectual habits. But the Scots have never yet become witty. They are rather apt, in the way of criticism, to dissect a man's pretensions unmercifully, and take him to pieces with a bitter tone of sarcasm that offends, and wounds, and rankles. There is a saturnine air,—a sardonic and not self-satisfied sneer about their humour. They are more caustic than tickling in their attacks. The pastoral qualities of that rude and unmusical *patois*, which they call their *dialect*, is favourable to the expression of broad

humour,—and in that they get on pretty well,—when they dare attempt it without the fear of being deemed foolish. But, for that again, they are more cynical than alert in their retorts. They cannot play round a subject. They must grasp and wrench it in the downright earnestness of their natures.—But of this enough.

Our readers, it is presumed, have such confidence in our wisdom as to believe that we could not have said all this for nothing; and, we can freely confess that we have brought in these remarks rather a little forcibly, it must be allowed,—only to shew our own moderation and caution in speaking of how people think, and what they say at this day in Old England. We have been fairly led into them, by natural association, from the perusal of those agreeable volumes whose titles appear at the head of this article, and which, in spirit and temper, abound with characteristics so different from those which distinguish the compositions of Scotsmen.

It may be observed, probably, that it savours of affectation to get up, in three expensive volumes, a series of newspaper criticisms,—and that the criticisms themselves, from their tone and style, are not fit to be considered as polite literature. This will be the language of those who are disposed to contemn Mr Hazlitt. But it is enough for the character of these intelligent and most cheerful compositions, that the public itself,—the ultimate and greatest judge of merit, has already decided in their favour.

Mr Hazlitt is not one of the most acute thinkers on every subject; neither is he the most profound expositor of the theory of literature which the present times, prolific enough in talent of that sort, have produced. But he is a man with a great deal of elegant knowledge,—with a wide range of illustration and reference in polite letters. In his airy and brief discussions, we sometimes desiderate harmony and fulness of view, or precision of thought. But there is never any want of directness. He gives a number of extraneous elements and extreme points,—not bound together easily by any common tie, and not very specially designated for their various purposes. They are placed together with great sharpness and spirit, and merely named for a purpose of his own, as if that alone were enough to denote their power and application at all points. We cannot say, on the whole, that they are misplaced; but we may complain that they are not seldom put down with the carelessness of one who sees a certain length and instantly,—but who is more solicitous about the grasp and generality of his idea than about the severe affinity of its relations, or the accuracy of its expression.

The Round Table bears his name. But part of it was written—and some of the best parts also, we think, by Mr Leigh Hunt. In the manner of the title-page, however, we shall make Mr Hazlitt the principal person; and, as the book on Shakespeare is wholly his, we shall merely name what we think the best essays of the Round Table, and then proceed with that general account of him as a writer to which the joint consideration of the two books has fairly given rise.

The best papers in the Round Table, as they occur to us, are those *On the tendency of Sects—On Manner* (a good compound of all that we have noted in Mr Hazlitt)—*On Chaucer—On the Causes of Methodism—On the Beggar's Opera—On Common-Place People—On Mr Kean's Iago—A Day by the Fireside—Characters of John Bull, and of Mr Pitt, and of Rousseau—On the Literary Character—On Washerwomen—On Gusto.* But these, of course, will be marked according to the different tastes and peculiar associations of different persons. It would be minute and tedious trifling to point out or defend our sense of their beauties.

Mr Hazlitt seems to have been early aware, that a writer on subjects of taste and the lighter departments of morals, requires, in addition to a fund of ingenuity, that, to use a peculiar phrase, *he should have all his wits about him.* Men, without having become a whit more sensitive or fanciful, are now so sagacious, that it is extremely difficult for an essayist to say how he shall attack them. "Le public," as M. Say observes, "Le public demande à un écrivain dont il achète le livre, de lui donner du neuf; et le public se fâche quand on lui donne quelque chose qui choque les idées reçues; cette contradiction est sur-tout bien sensible en morale, où tout ce qui est reçu, est excessive-

ment commun, et où tout ce qui ne l'est pas, fait rejaillir toujours un certain degré de blâme sur l'écrivain qui le hasarde"* Mr Hazlitt escapes all this; and while he eschews every thing that is flat or common-place—he is such as we have endeavoured faithfully to represent him in the following very slight and obvious considerations.

Mr Hazlitt is very far from being a simple writer, and yet he is, perhaps, the most pleasing chastiser of the lighter follies of mankind,—the best critic on the proper gout for painting,—and on the tasteful appreciation and fanciful adjustment of the drama. He is the best writer of a short essay since Goldsmith,—only he cares less about seriously hurting worthy prejudices or respectable weaknesses,—and has infinitely less aversion from bustle or pretension. In this latter respect, indeed, he is quite up to the tone of the age, and gives judgments, and comes to conclusions, or deals censures, with great rapidity and decision. One great charm about him is the apparently unconscious gravity, and deep tone of absolute impression and responsibility with which he dispatches all the trifling details of his subject, and all the fleeting interests and well-turned small talk with which a critic on actors and plays has to deal. He is, in this respect, all in all. He thinks no more of questioning the depth and interest of his discussions, than M. De La Place would of making a doubt concerning his investigation of the problem of the three bodies, or his theorems of the eccentricities of the planetary orbits. He does not seek to *cover* his assertions, or to justify them by any very minute process of defence. He throws them out, and leaves the adjustment and harmonising of them to the taste or caprice of his various readers. All this is clearly what is wanted in a critic who attempts to guide the public opinion, or to excite discussion on the lesser departments of criticism, or the more transient topics of taste. And the consequence is, that these essays were more generally read, and excited a wider interest when they first appeared in the Examiner, than any thing of the kind which had been produced for many years.

An essay is not expected to contain the developement of a theory, or the complete exposition of ultimate truth. Its object is to excite others to think for themselves, or, by the exhibition of agreeable imagery, and the use of smart allusion, to make them pleased with the labour of thinking.* If Mr H. does not expound any new or beautiful theory,—he certainly conveys more vivid images, in a slight and unpretending shape, and in the smallest compass, than any other periodical writer we know. If he pushes his view of a question in taste or manners rather farther than a more grave critic would venture, or than the judicious or fastidious among his readers can go along with him,—there is in all he says so much frankness and good humour, that his paradoxes are never distasteful. He never sneers at common men,—nor speaks with contempt of their humble vocations, or disgust at their harmless though unenlightened propensities. He frequently discovers, and, in short, never omits to express, where there is occasion or opportunity for it,—a warm regard and a noble-minded respect for the happiness and liberties of the great mass of human beings. His power of throwing a shade of tasteful and amusing illustration over the most common topics, from all parts of learning, and especially from the whole range of poetry, eloquence, painting, and the drama, is not equalled, we believe, by any popular writer of these times. He seems always to have in his eye that cutting remark of M. Say, "Entre un penseur, et un érudit il y a la même différence qu'entre un

* We have uncommon pleasure in referring to a work of light and agreeable literature, published the other day in Paris. "PETIT VOLUME contenant quelques apperçus Des Hommes, et de la Société. *Par Jean Baptiste Say*, De l'Academie Imperiale de Saint-Petersbourg." The first political economist of his day appears in that little book as a person of genuine wit and acuteness of observation, and a lover and a successful cultivator of the *belles-lettres*.

* Hume is the writer who unites the deepest thought with the winning graces of classical language and the various charms of harmonious composition. A great critic of our own time and country, is the man who stimulates the most thought, and simplifies the exposition of a theory in the smallest space.

livre et une table des matières,"—and would appear to regard his learning very little, if it did not afford him the instruments for putting those about him in better humour with themselves. He seems not to have the smallest portion of the intellectual saturnine about him,—and, while his object is to furnish ordinary men with those fruits, in which, perhaps, after all, consist the only enviable results of erudition,—he is no pedant himself, and seems to view it in others with that easy contempt which is more likely to put it down, than the angry impatience with which men of warm apprehensions are apt to meet it. He avows his sentiments, and the whole of them, with the fearless openness of an Englishman. He defers to no prejudices. He flatters no weaknesses. And all his efforts seem bent on producing in the world a greater stock of candour in judgment,—unpretending uprightness in conduct,—and feelings of tolerance and kindness towards the general mass of human beings. The scope and object of his writings, indeed, is to increase the sum of human happiness, by clearing and enlarging the avenues of elegant and innocent gratification. He labours to render common those noble inquiries of which Mr Payne Knight has remarked, in his forcible language, that they "bring the highest efforts of human taste or genius into a stronger or clearer light,—adding to the intellectual pleasures of man, which are certainly the most valuable belonging to his nature, because they can be at all times enjoyed without injury to health, fame, or fortune." * The certain effect of his good temper and well applied ridicule, is to pull down intolerance. His aim is to teach the religious part of the community to look at their erring brethren without hating them,—and those who have been at some pains to form tastes and habits, and opinions, not to suppose that they know all that is worth knowing,—or that the rest of mankind who do not see with their eyes, are either very stupid or very weak. This is the right tone for a public writer. It would be reason enough for us to like Mr Hazlitt, and to overlook his faults, even though he did not write with a vigour and brilliancy,—a tasteful, ornate, and uninflated eloquence,—and a rich natural vivacity, which are all, to an uncommon degree, the rightful praise and the natural possessions of his fine intellect.

There has been much sneering at Mr Hazlitt, and reproach of him for having dared to say, that he wrote "in the manner of the earlier periodical essayists, the Spectator and Tatler." Nothing, however, it appears to us, could be more absurd than this sneering, except the ineffective spleen and littleness of mind which gave rise to it. It would be unfair to institute a direct comparison between Addison and a favoured writer of this day, with all those advantages on his side, which the progress of science and philosophy has given to even the humblest of speculators. Good taste in manners and in literature also have descended to ranks in society lower than those at which they were fixed in Addison's day. This has given a prepared manner to those who write for the public. There is none of that lordly slovenliness or boobyishly condescending carelessness of manner, or privileged contempt of method in argument, which characterized the Buckinghams, the Halifaxes, and the Shaftesburys, while there is less of the raciness and persuaded intensity of Molesworth. The standard of taste must still fluctuate. Ideas, however, are more fixed; and there is less palliation, and less excuse for haste, or indolence, or indistinctness. We venerate the name of Addison. We think that there is something of the bland and calm,—the benevolent and ingenuous,—the real *atticism* of polite letters, associated with it. There was a grace and chasteness in every thing which he wrote,—something, in fact, which, if the repose and coldness of marble could speak,—is very like the air and attitude of his statue in Westminster Abbey. He is the author of the finest allegorical vision in our language. But, Mr Hazlitt's writings are incomparably fuller of ideas than Addison's. He cannot even jest with a subject without letting out notions and fragments of thought as it were, which have an *incidence* which shews them to be the product of a philosophical observer. He condenses, we repeat it, a great

* See "*An Analytical Essay on the Greek Alphabet.*" Lond. 4to, 1791.

many ideas on subjects of taste and letters, in a small space. Addison's thoughts hung too loosely about him. His fulness of language,—his quantity of words,—the cloying redundance of his expression, are, it strikes us, inadequate to the result of ideas which they convey. He has seldom that precision of thought which stirs thought in others. His wit is wire-drawn, and his mirth languid. Mr Hazlitt is a different writer. And, moreover, we are quite sure he did not refer to Addison from any undue presumption, or any disrespect to him as the father of our periodical literature.

In every thing which Mr Hazlitt writes there is much of the ease and unstudied variety of conversation;—only that the flow of language is more ornate,—the transitions smoother,—and, in the painter's term, better *shaded in*. We have no doubt, in short, that many essays in the Round Table are fair copies of his table-talk. We know, at least, that the essay on Methodism, one of the most poignant and effective pieces of satire in the shape of essay, was delivered at a literary *converzatione* in London, nearly verbatim as it appears; the dialogue on Mr Hazlitt's part, beginning "The first methodist on record was David. He was the first eminent person we read of who made a regular compromise between religion and morality, between faith and good works."

We should guess him to be just that sort of man who could open well a debateable question, and mark out its bearings and relations in the way best calculated to excite discussion. But he might possibly appear to less advantage, if a keen and adroit questioner were to press home on him for the reason of his faith. He would be better in attack than in reply. He would appear, also, to most advantage after men of nice belief, and formal distinctions, had exhausted their common-places of good faith. He is fond of cutting at right angles into a subject, and making short work of his conclusions. His talent, however, does not appear to be that of simplifying. He is dogmatically facetious. He is not lazy-minded, though, like other dogmatists: He does not trifle away his time in clothing old saws with vehement amplification, and vigorous language;—he produces his results by a happy grouping of conceptions, and a simple combination of thought;—he comes to the end of his logic sooner than we could wish. His process is so direct, and rests on so few expletive circumstances, or qualifying conditions, that we come to the belief with which he wishes to inspire us, not with the slow and interrupted pleasure of professed investigation, but we rather receive impressions with the vividness of a poetical figure of eloquence, or the soothing titillation which can be conveyed by a witty man who gives the best wine, and points all his jokes in support of the side we like best. This costs a much greater expenditure of the energies of the thinking principle, and goes into an infinitely smaller space than the wire-drawn statements, and technically supported ingenuity, of writers who have neither quickness of spirit, nor comprehension of sympathy, to trust their first impressions.

As a writer on art, Mr Hazlitt's power has been greatly shewn. Here he has, by a rare felicity of language, found means to express all the capricious ideas, and minute distinctions, and to arrest all the fleeting impressions which enter into our judgment of a picture, or constitute the pleasures we receive from painting. His sentences sparkle with imagery. It is true that he too often appears familiar or affected, and sometimes uses freedoms with language which it can hardly bear. But his illustrations are so profuse and happy, that he gives to a criticism on a picture the inventiveness and spirit-stirring facility of poetry, without losing the propriety of prose. We would offer him a tribute in his own way by saying, that he attends not merely to the graceful grouping of his figures, and the proper distribution of his lights and shadows, but elaborates with care the minutest objects, and brings out distinctly, by a happy stroke, all the adjuncts and paraphernalia of his representation. He is a foe to formality, and a determined lover of gaiety. His air is perhaps rather free and familiar,—his manner *tranchant*. His art, however, it is fair to say, might be defined, on the whole, as that of making slight and trivial things the object of serious discussion, rather than of the easy and familiar explication of great subjects. His is an acute mind

rendering ordinary matters the vehicle of subtle thought, or subjecting them to rhetorical definition. We see the spectacle of a man of great powers taking a perverse pleasure in winding to his purposes the docility of common apprehensions. He is a giant stooping to lift a feather. As to his ingenuity, we may apply to it language which we dare say will be recognized. "Hazlitt, Sir! is one of a set of men who account for every thing systematically; for instance, it has been a fashion to wear scarlet breeches; these men would tell you, that, according to causes and effects, no other wear could at that time have been chosen." It is to the existence of such writers as these, however, joined with the indescribable action of political events in moulding human thought, that we are to look for the main causes which, in this country, have given a more ambitious and decided turn to our critical system, and a more vigorous and elevated tone to our periodical literature, than that which justified the admiration of our immediate predecessors for the wit and philosophy of the golden age of Queen Anne.

The writers in the Round Table appear to have read the Italian poets, especially Dante, * with such care, as to be able to refer to them very effectually, on occasions for which the beaten range of hackneyed quotation could not possibly lend equal power to their illustrations, or force to the meaning they wish to convey. Indeed, the Examiner has been remarkable for its numerous and apt quotations from Italian literature. It was with some indignation, therefore, that we saw it stated in a contemporary work, that Mr Hunt's knowledge in that department "is confined to a few of the most popular of Petrarch's sonnets, and an imperfect acquaintance with Ariosto, through the medium of Mr Hoole." This could only be the statement of one who has had no personal or direct opportunity of estimating the literary pretensions of Mr Hunt and Mr Hazlitt. Except through the hearsay of very second-hand persons, he can know nothing of the habits or acquirements of these gentlemen. And, if the freedom of their political sentiments, and their truly English strain of independence, had not made enemies to them in many quarters, whence enmity could not have proceeded from sound judgment, or right principle, we should have been surprised, as well as offended, at such an instance of want of common discretion, joined with an utter disregard of common candour, or critical fairness. The impudent harshness, and rude vulgarity, of the whole paper, of which this averment was a part, are, in fact, so excessive, so obtrusive, and transparent, that they of themselves sufficiently indicate a source to which no information of the personal habits of Mr Leigh Hunt or Mr Hazlitt could possibly have reached, except at third or fourth hand. The Messrs Hunts were educated at Christ's Hospital, and were early initiated into more of the best of ancient literature than is at all common among the raw-headed young men who fret their little hour in the lowest ranks of those professions to which, in this provincial town, the epithet learned is applied with a most ludicrous exclusiveness and impropriety. *

In the tirade to which we at present

* There is a set of authors more admired than read. *Dante* is almost the chief of these. We believe it was Voltaire who said wittily and truly, that *Dante owed his fame to his obscurity*. It shews a laudable curiosity in a modern critic, when he reads such an author, and extends his fame by imparting a relish of him to his own readers.

* Far be it from us to attach any importance to those school acquirements which one fool may have, and another want, just as the chance is. But they who put their strength in these studies, must stand or fall by their proficiency in them. The Blue Coat School, and other foundations for learning in England, comparing them with the schools of Edinburgh and Glasgow, will be found to produce, number for number, *at least as many* well-grounded scholars,—more men of open and independent character,—and certainly not fewer of sound and serviceable attainments. Now, it would be strange if any man, not a better scholar than those, (allowing him, for the sake of argument, to be as good,) should say that they knew Homer only through a translation, *when they quoted him in Greek!* It is equally strange, and not a whit more honest, for a man who knows absolutely nothing of the private studies of these writers, to say, that they cannot read Italian, because they quote Dante in his native tongue!!

allude, Mr Hunt is, with equal elegance and propriety, reproached for having "*extremely vulgar modes of thinking, and manners in all respects.*" Of the author of this tirade we know nothing. But, we trust, with a seriousness proportioned to our respect for them, that he may turn out to be a person neither of genius nor of liberal political leanings. For what man of whiggish attachments would not be ashamed of such a drivelling assertion as this: "All the great poets of our country have been men of some rank in society, and there is no vulgarity in any of their writings; but Mr Hunt cannot utter a dedication, or even a note, without betraying the *shibboleth* of low birth and low habits?" It is hard to believe that any man of sound taste, of real honesty, or of unsophisticated principles of any sort, could have spoken of another as this writer has done of Mr Hunt,—*apparently* from the mere vulgar love of scandal,—or the still more vulgar, slavish, and contemptible motive of administering to that base appetite in others. His definition, or implied notion of vulgarity, is sufficiently striking. A vulgar man, he thinks, is one who has wrought his way in society independently, without truckling or chicane; and who comes, at length, by the mere force of superior genius, taste, talent, and application, to have an influence on public opinion. This influence, be it remembered, he uses consistently, from first to last, for the service of public liberty. Of course, he is *not* a member of a *learned profession*. By the mental law of association, things suggest their contraries. Let us see what is a polished man by this rule of reverses. He must be one that cannot help being born of parents pretty well to do in the world. One who has been breeched, in his boyhood, into a little bad prosody, and some imperfect verbal criticism. One who, by dint of favour and acquaintanceship, gets bolstered up to a standing in the lower ranks of a *learned* profession, (already overstocked with helpless aspirants,) from which he may never emerge during a life of drawling insignificance and submission, except through such patronage as the *political* part of the profession can afford to him!

After having entered, at such length, into what we conceive to be the general characteristics of Mr Hazlitt's writings, it would be absurd to give any minute criticism on books which are in every one's hands. We cannot, however, resist quoting a passage from the review of Mr Wordsworth's *Excursion*. That paper alone has had the merit of treating the great worth of that extraordinary person with fairness and philosophy, without sanctioning any of his weaknesses, or overlooking his faults. The following part is remarkable for a chaste and powerful eloquence:

——— "Yet the pity of my heart
Prevents me not from owning that the law,
By which mankind now suffers, is most just.
For by superior energies; more strict
Affiance in each other; faith more firm
In their unhallowed principles; the bad
Have fairly earned a victory o'er the weak,
The vacillating, inconsistent good."

"In the application of these memorable lines we should, perhaps, differ a little from Mr Wordsworth; nor can we indulge with him in the fond conclusion afterwards hinted at, that one day *our* triumph, the triumph of humanity and liberty, may be complete. For this purpose we think several things necessary which are impossible. It is a consummation which cannot happen till the nature of things is changed, till the many become as united as the *one*, till romantic generosity shall be as common as gross selfishness, till reason shall have acquired the obstinate blindness of prejudice, till the love of power and of change shall no longer goad man on to restless action, till passion and will, hope and fear, love and hatred, and the objects proper to excite them, that is, alternate good and evil, shall no longer sway the bosoms and businesses of men. All things move, not in progress, but in a ceaseless round; our strength lies in our weakness; our virtues are built on our vices; our faculties are as limited as our being; nor can we lift man above his nature more than above the earth he treads. But, though we cannot weave over again the airy, unsubstantial dream, which reason and experience have dispelled,

"What though the radiance, which was
once so bright,
Be now for ever taken from our sight,
Though nothing can bring back the hour
Of glory in the grass, of splendour in the
flower:"—

With unprovoked, unfounded, shocking, and abominable calumnies on any man's private character, we have nothing to do. The discussion of them forms an instant and imperious duty of the courts of law.

yet we will never cease nor be prevented from returning on the wings of imagination to that bright dream of our youth; that glad dawn of the day-star of liberty; that spring-time of the world, in which the hopes and expectations of the human race seemed opening in the same gay career with our own; when France called her children to partake her equal blessings beneath her laughing skies; when the stranger was met in all her villages with dance and festive songs, in celebration of a new and golden era; and when to the retired and contemplative student the prospects of human happiness and glory were seen ascending, like the steps of Jacob's ladder, in bright and never-ending succession. The dawn of that day was suddenly overcast; that season of hope is past; it is fled with the other dreams of our youth, which we cannot recal, but has left behind it traces which are not to be effaced by birth-day and thanksgiving odes, or the chaunting of *Te Deums* in all the churches of Christendom. To those hopes eternal regrets are due; to those who maliciously and wilfully blasted them, in the fear that they might be accomplished, we feel no less what we owe—hatred and scorn as lasting!"

As a *primary event*, influencing by its peculiar features and connections strongly and immediately the tone and progress of society in the European Continent, and, more remotely, some of the less indifferent feelings and speculations of the whole range of civilized man, *the French Revolution*, that word of still mighty import has been used, we imagine, with reference to varying phenomena in the moral, and very different classes of events in the political, world, both by its friends and enemies, with marvellously little strictness of application or clearness of idea. By one set of thinkers it has been execrated as the direful parent of all, and even more than all, the evils attributed by others to the selfishness and unteachableness of kings and courts. By a recluse, and scanty, and scattered race of speculative men, it has been more simply regarded as a grand revenge on the crimes of successful tyranny, and the insults of deceiving priestcraft, wherever committed. We do not wish to enter into this painful topic, or to express, even by inference, any opinion of our own upon it; but, in these days of political mystification and shameless tergiversation, there is something kindly in the air of that man who can trust himself with the buoyancy and warmth of his youthful impressions;—more so, if he can speak of that event without any perverse inclination to cut into the angry feelings about it which yet remain on either side.

As to Mr Hazlitt's Characters of Shakespeare, they appear to us the most animated, intelligent, and prepossessed criticism on the "great heir of fame." Their admiration is only too systematic. There is a constant effort to point out beauties, along with a profound reason for them, and to discern fitnesses at which Shakespeare himself would be astonished, were any of the happy spirits in Elysium to mention the progressive speculations about him with which earth teems. The following passage from these criticisms, which is full of truth and error, is a proper specimen of how deeply Mr Hazlitt goes into the most ticklish speculations, even when he is discussing the scenery of a play, or the merits of a scenic hero.

"The insolence of power is stronger than the plea of necessity. The tame submission to usurped authority, or even the natural resistance to it, has nothing to excite or flatter the imagination: it is the assumption of a right to insult or oppress others that carries an air of superiority with it. Wrong, dressed out in pride, pomp, and circumstance, has more attraction than abstract right. Coriolanus complains of the fickleness of the people; yet, the instant he cannot gratify his pride and obstinacy at their expence, he turns his arms against his country. If his country was not worth defending, why build his pride on its defence? He is a conqueror and a hero; he conquers other countries, and makes this a plea for enslaving his own; and, when he is prevented from doing so, he leagues with its enemies to destroy his country. He rates the people 'as if he were a god to punish, and not a man of their infirmity.' He scoffs at one of their tribunes for maintaining their rights and franchises. 'Mark you his absolute shall;' not marking his own absolute *will* to take every thing from them,—his impatience of the slightest opposition to his own pretensions being in proportion to their arrogance and absurdity. If the great and powerful had the beneficence and wisdom of gods, then all this would have been well: if, with a greater knowledge of what is good for the people, they had as great a care for their interest as they have themselves, if they were seated above the world, sympathizing with the welfare, but not feeling the passions of men, receiving neither good nor hurt from them, but bestowing their benefits as free gifts on them, they might then rule over them like an-

other Providence. But this is not the case. Coriolanus is unwilling that the senate should shew their 'cares' for the people, lest their 'cares' should be construed into 'fears,' to the subversion of all due authority; and he is no sooner disappointed in his schemes to deprive the people, not only of the cares of the state, but of all power to redress themselves, than Volumnia is made madly to exclaim,

> 'Now the red pestilence strike all trades in Rome,
> And occupations perish.'

This is but natural: it is but natural for a mother to have more regard for her son than for a whole city; but then the city should be left to take some care of itself. The care of the state cannot, we here see, be safely entrusted to maternal affection, or to the domestic charities of high life. The great have private feelings of their own, to which the interests of humanity and justice must courtesy. Their interests are so far from being the same as those of the community, that they are in direct, if necessary, opposition to them; their power is at the expence of *our* weakness; their riches of *our* poverty; their pride of *our* degradation; their splendour of *our* wretchedness; their tyranny of *our* servitude. If they had the superior knowledge ascribed to them, (which they have not,) it would only render them so much more formidable; and from gods would convert them into devils. The whole dramatic moral of CORIOLANUS is, that those who have little shall have less, and that those who have much shall take all that others have left. The people are poor, therefore they ought to be starved. They are slaves, therefore they ought to be beaten. They work hard, therefore they ought to be treated like beasts of burthen. They are ignorant, therefore they ought not to be allowed to feel that they want food, or clothing, or rest, that they are enslaved, oppressed, and miserable. This is the logic of the imagination and the passions; which seeks to aggrandize what excites admiration, and to heap contempt on misery; to raise power into tyranny, and to make tyranny absolute; to thrust down that which is low still lower, and to make wretches desperate: to exalt magistrates into kings, kings into gods; to degrade subjects to the rank of slaves, and slaves to the condition of brutes. The history of mankind is a romance, a mask, a tragedy, constructed upon the principles of *poetical justice;* it is a noble or royal hunt, in which what is sport to the few is death to the many, and in which the spectators halloo and encourage the strong to set upon the weak, and cry havock in the chace, though they do not share in the spoil. We may depend upon it, that what men delight to read in books, they will put in practice in reality."

This is extremely animated and erroneous, and, in point of ingenuity, is far above the pitch of dramatic criticism. What follows is less painful in its subject, as well as more just and lively.

"Shakespeare's comedy is, in essence, the same with that of Cervantes, and also very frequently of Moliere, though he was more systematic in his extravagance than Shakespeare. Shakespeare's comedy is of a pastoral and poetical cast. Folly is indigenous to the soil, and shoots out with a native, happy, unchecked luxuriance. Absurdity has every encouragement afforded it, and nonsense has room to flourish in. Nothing is stunted by the churlish icy hand of indifference or severity. The poet runs riot in a conceit, and idolizes a quibble. His whole object is to turn the meanest or rudest objects to a pleasurable account. The relish which he has of a pun, or of the quaint humour of a low character, does not interfere with the delight with which he describes a beautiful image, or the most refined love. The clown's forced jests do not spoil the sweetness of the character of Viola; the same house is big enough to hold Malvolio, the Countess, Maria, Sir Toby, and Sir Andrew Ague-Cheek. For instance, nothing can fall much lower than this last character in intellect or morals: yet how are his weaknesses nursed and dandled by Sir Toby into something 'high fantastical,' when, on Sir Andrew's commendation of himself for dancing and fencing, Sir Toby answers, 'Wherefore are these things hid? Wherefore have these gifts a curtain before them?' &c. How Sir Toby, Sir Andrew, and the Clown, afterwards *chirp over their cups!* How they 'rouse the night out in a catch, able to draw three souls out of one weaver!' What can be better than Sir Toby's unanswerable answer to Malvolio, 'Dost thou think, because thou art virtuous, there shall be no more cakes and ale?' In a word, the best turn is given to every thing, instead of the worst. There is a constant infusion of the romantic and enthusiastic, in proportion as the characters are natural and sincere; whereas, in the more artificial style of comedy, every thing gives way to ridicule and indifference, there being nothing left but affectation on one side, and incredulity on the other. Much as we like Shakespeare's comedies, we cannot agree with Dr Johnson, that they are better than his tragedies; nor do we like them half so well. If his inclination to comedy sometimes led him to trifle with the seriousness of tragedy, the poetical and impassioned passages are the best parts of his comedies."

Mr Hazlitt, in descanting on Shakespeare's beauties, and on the variety of his genius, which grasps, as it were by *anticipation*, so many excrescent lights of thought, and gratuitous corruscations of fancy, has omitted to note, with its proper tone, one striking passage. In the first scene, second act, of "*As You Like It*," we think Shakespeare has completely anticipated *the Lake Poets*. He "translates the stubbornness of fortune into so quiet and so sweet a style," as to "Find tongues in trees, books in the running brooks, sermons in stones, and good in every thing." All that precedes, about the seclusion and simplicity of their style of life in the Forest of Arden;—all that follows of the "poor sequestered stag that from the hunter's aim had ta'en a hurt;"—where Jacques is left "weeping and commenting upon the sobbing deer," and the Duke is made to say, "I love to cope him in those sullen fits, for then he is full of matter." All these parts are in a style which Mr Wordsworth has not surpassed, either for natural plainness, or force of effect. Nothing can, indeed, be more effective, except in such cases as where, by an instantaneous hit, Shakespeare reaches the very climax of good fellowship. It is Sir John Falstaff who says, "Aye, Master Shallow, we have heard the chimes at midnight!!"

Six Weeks in Paris, or a Cure for the Gallomania; said to be extracted from the Portfolio of a Nobleman. 3 volumes 8vo. London, J. Johnston.

From the title of this book, we suspected that it would be a libel against the French; and, as we have an abhorrence of all libels, whether directed against nations or individuals, we were predisposed to severity against the author. On reading it, however, all our wrath subsided, and our feelings sunk into those of the most sovereign contempt. The desire to calumniate is, no doubt, strongly shown in every page; but, fortunately, the malignity of the author is diluted with such a profuse mixture of vulgarity and stupidity, that he, and, perhaps, his unfortunate publisher, are the only persons in danger of suffering from the effusion. The resemblance of Paris, or of Parisian manners, is so little to be discovered, in the coarse, vulgar, and disgusting daubings of the author, that we have no hesitation in saying, that he has never been in Paris himself. We are persuaded that he has only heard some gossiping fool give a distorted description of some few objects in that city which attract the attention of strangers,—has thereupon procured a *Guide de Paris*, for farther information,—and from these materials has produced the three volumes now given to the public. In short, there is neither reality nor caricature;—neither humour, wit, nor fancy, to be found in the book;—and, as for taste or fine writing, an Irish labourer, dictating an epistle which he cannot write, would exhibit specimens of both superior to those displayed by the author in this wretched performance.

We have to apologize, therefore, for noticing the work at all; but we do so to have an opportunity of expressing our decided disapprobation of all attempts to libel the character and manners of foreign nations, to gratify the senseless conceit of the ignorant and malignant part of our own. We were much distressed, when in France, to meet with amiable and intelligent individuals of that nation filled with all sorts of prejudices against this country, many of them so foolish as to excite our astonishment at their being for a moment entertained. But these prejudices owed their origin to misrepresentations, lies, and slanders, industriously circulated in France by wits of the same paltry description as are found too easily here. We really did not know whether to smile or to frown at being gravely told, that, in Britain, the gentlemen regularly get drunk after the ladies have retired to the drawing-room;—that genteel people in England box each other on the slightest quarrel;—that we eat beaf-steaks, half raw and half broiled, to breakfast, dinner, and supper;—that our whole soul is wrapt up, night and day, in the desire of gain;—that we are strangers to refined amusement and social pleasure;—that we shoot, drown, and hang ourselves on the occasion of every disappointment; with an endless list of similar absurdities. Such ridiculous prejudices may appear deserving of contempt alone; and, if no evil consequences arose

from them, farther than a laugh at our expence, that would be the proper treatment to give them. But the propagation of such notions keeps alive those feelings of mutual contempt, hatred, and animosity, which prepare the population of both countries to rush again with eagerness into hostilities, and to embrue their hands in each other's blood. Were it possible to make us believe that virtue, genius, and amiable feeling, may be found among the French, and to make the French believe that civilized, polite, intelligent, and upright men may be found in Britain; in short, were it possible to give the two nations a mutual esteem for each other, more would thereby be done towards preserving the peace of Europe than is likely to be accomplished by the Holy Alliance itself. The feelings of the people, in this country at least, have still some influence on the government; and, could we happily be brought to perceive, that there is nothing in the French character so very offensive to God or man, as to make it either very meritorious or very glorious for us to take the ships, bombard the towns, and cut the throats of that nation, perhaps one day we might save ourselves many hard blows on our own heads, and avoid many bitter groanings under a load of taxation, the sure accompaniment of the pastime of war. He, therefore, who wantonly exasperates the feelings of national hostility between us and France, has to answer to a heavy charge at the bar of reason and morality; and he who endeavours, without flattering either, to allay these animosities, has at least the merit of attempting to do a service to both.

A Narrative of the Case of Miss Margaret M'Avoy, with an Account of some Optical Experiments connected with it. By Thomas Renwick, M. D. Physician to the Liverpool Infirmary. 4to. London, 1817.

When we first heard of this wonderful lady, in the tea-table gossip of this city, and her extraordinary powers, we must confess that we could not help suspecting her to be another edition of the *fasting-woman*, or of *Caraboo*, the late celebrated Princess of Japan. Our suspicions were not entirely removed by the letter of the Rev. Thomas Glover, nor do we feel perfectly convinced by the quarto volume of the Physician to the Liverpool Infirmary. We have read the whole of the Doctor's preface, narrative, and appendix; and the conclusion at which we have arrived is, that the powers ascribed to Miss M'Avoy are altogether miraculous, not to be accounted for by reference either to experience or analogy, and unparalleled by any of those singular deviations from the established laws of nature which sometimes baffle the wisdom of the wise, while they afford abundant matter for the wonder, credulity, and exaggeration of the vulgar.

Before, however, proceeding to shew, from Dr Renwick's own statements, the grounds which we have for coming to such a conclusion, it may be necessary to inform such of our readers as are not acquainted with the circumstances, that this is a narrative given in the form of a journal of a medical case;—that Miss Margaret M'Avoy is a young lady of Liverpool, who entered the eighteenth year of her age on the 28th of last June; and that, from nine months upwards, she has always been in bad health. Her first ailment appears to have been some affection of the brain or its membranes, as her recovery was owing to a discharge of thick matter from her ears and nostrils. She next had the scarlet-fever and hooping-cough, which last was succeeded by a violent inflammation of her eyes. "When the eyelids were raised up," says Dr Renwick, "the eye-balls appeared as one mass of blood." They were cured by *Johnston's golden ointment*. In October 1814 she caught a violent cold, attended with cough, loss of appetite, and great debility. In February 1815 her thighs became œdematous, and the body was much swollen. On the 4th of June 1816, Dr Renwick received a message to visit her early next morning; and he describes the condition in which he found her, in a report on the 5th, from which we extract the following particulars. She had taken little or no food for the last three weeks. The bowels were habitually costive; pulse varied from 84 to 140. There had been no appearance of the menses for three months. She complained of cough, pain in the right side, tightness of

the chest, dyspnœa, and palpitation of the heart; also of violent pain in the fore and back part of the head, with a throbbing and beating sensation. The vessels of the coats of the eye were filled with red blood, but she suffered very little uneasiness from the action of light. She was much affected with giddiness; was nearly blind of the left eye; and, for some days, every object she had seen with the right appeared white if at a distance; if near, it appeared double. On the 7th she appeared totally blind. On the 9th she was seized with convulsions. About three o'clock on the afternoon of the 12th she was observed to gasp for breath, and complained of a sense of suffocation from something passing down her throat that was very offensive in taste and smell. The convulsions ceased from the time of the discharge taking place; but the beating complained of in the back part of the head did not subside until the 17th. She then felt a soreness over the whole body. The top of the head became peculiarly sensible. Her hearing, which had been dull from childhood, was now very acute. On the 2d of August she had become very expert in sewing, although she was said to have been blind from the 6th or 7th of June.

It was now that her wonderful powers began to be developed. She was able to thread her needle frequently at the first effort. Early in September she pointed out to her father-in-law a particular passage in a book that was put into her hands, and read part of it. This induced them to try her with another book, and on presenting her with a large folio bible she read several verses. She felt the letters with her fingers before she pronounced the word, and had she stopped here we might have been inclined to give some credit to her powers; for we know that the sense of touch is often most astonishingly acute, and she might be able to discover the form of a letter by the finger passing over it. Nay, we will even allow, that it was possible for her to acquire the faculty of distinguishing colours in the same way, by touching the object; but when we are told, that she can tell the hour of the day, by placing her finger upon the watch-glass; that she can tell the number of persons in the street, their dress and occupation, by placing her fingers on a pane of the window-glass in the inside of the room, we cannot avoid taking refuge from the painful influence of those overwhelming mysteries in the retreats of stubborn scepticism.

January 17, 1817.—"This day she not only declared the colour of different cloths, cotton and silk, but several pieces of silk that were inclosed in a small phial bottle!"—"A watch was given into her hands, she felt the surface of the glass, and soon named the hour!"

June 28.—"Traced and told several colours of silk inclosed in a glass-bottle!"

Experiment 19.—"With her hands upon the window perceived two newly cut stones of a yellow colour, lying one on another against the wall on the other side of the street, distance about 12 yards!" August 4th.—"With her hand placed behind her upon the window, opposite to the communion end of the church, she told the figures of different people passing, and sometimes named the colour of their clothes. She told also the position of four different workmen in the church-yard, one by one as they sat down, and then of the four she stated one to be reading a paper or book, the second to have his hands folded across his breast; the third with his hands in his breeches pocket, and so on."

We have not space for more of these wonders; but enough we hope has been said to excuse our incredulity. On a future occasion we may try even to justify it; and to shew, from the Narrative itself, that it is at least as probable that Miss M'Avoy is not altogether blind, as that she is endowed with the capacity of perceiving the forms, and colours, and locality of distant objects, by passing her fingers along the panes of a window. There is here, indeed, as Hume might have said upon reading the evidence of such learned, and, we make no doubt, honourable men, a terrible conflict between probabilities. We already anticipate on which side victory will rest.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

MOHALED—*a Tale.*

THE Moon leans o'er the groves of pine
That crown the cloudless Appenine,
And from the bosom of the night
The vales burst with their rills of light,
That slide down grassy slopes, or spring
From rocks, with ceaseless murmuring.
The Var beneath her paly glow
Reposes, white as desart snow
Between his level banks, that gleam
In dew resplendent as his stream.
There the soft moonlight sleeps, and fair
Each diamond star is twinkling there.
So bright the glittering pictures lie,
Earth smiles like an inferior sky:
Prepared for pure and sainted things
To worship in, while living strings,
Instinct with music's spirit, move,
And feed their burning hearts with love.
  Are these of heaven that slowly glide
Beside the Var's unconscious tide,
Twin forms in loveliness, bedight
In shining robes of virgin white?
Their flaxen locks in masses rolled,
Fall clustering o'er their zones of gold;
Half-veiling polished arms of snow,
That join in loving folds below.
A swelling brow, an eye of blue,
Beam those ungathered tresses through;
And bosoms 'neath that lucid skreen
In bud-like purity are seen:
So stands an angel, when he springs
To earth, and folds his spangled wings.
  Onward the cloud-like creatures float;
The flowers spring as they felt them not;
And from the grass no rustling sound
Tells that their small feet press the ground;
Till, where a lonely oak hath laid
Across the flood his tower-like shade,—
Whose head, in the blue depth afar,
Is diademed with many a star,—
Their motions cease. A tear, a sigh,
The bosom lifts, and gems the eye,
As on their heaven-ward faces streaming
The downy light is softly beaming.
Alas! sad stream, a human tear
Is trembling in thy mirror clear;
And in a bosom crushed and torn
That long despairing sigh was born!
Behold, beside thy starry water,
Alveni's bleeding-hearted daughter!
And one whose sympathetic ear,
Alone her tragic tale must hear,
While with the eloquence of woe,
Broken with sobs, her sorrows flow;
Now scarcely audible, and drowned
In tears, half sinking to the ground—
And now rekindles in her face
The high-ton'd spirit of her race,
Indignant as her tale proceeds
Through ruthless and oppressive deeds;
She waves her hand with threatening air,
As if her father's might were there;
And such a curse was in his eye,
When fierce he thrust, and thundered,
  "Die!"
But quickly past the tempest sweeps;
Again the woman melts and weeps—
  Thus the pent torrent jets and roars
Between its strait and ragged shores,
Or shoots the headlong gulf amain
Impatient of its mountain chain;
Then soothed the meads and groves among
In flowers and music glides along.
  Sweet childhood's vermeil scenes arise
In sun-tints laughing to the skies;
And long enamoured memory plays
Infantine, in the thornless maze;
When safe the modest floweret lay
A bud of promise on the spray.
  This vision fades, and upward springs
Glad youth with glory on his wings.
Joys more intense, but less sincere,
Urge their magnificent career;
And pleasure in the bounding vein
Defiance pours to grief and pain.
  "Now from this summer hill of bliss,
Look forward. From the drear abyss
The soul turns gloomily, for there
The shadows frown of my despair.
O! Anna, can I breathe that name
Which comes across my soul like flame,
Straining to madness every cord—
That name beloved—accurst—adored!
His image rises in my brain;
He looks, he speaks, he loves again;
And, spite of nature's partial will,
He reigns within my bosom still.
  His honours fresh, and sweetly worn,
Lovely he came—as summer's morn
Leaps o'er the dew-bright hill, and gives
Delight to every thing that lives!
Though young in arms, his deeds were told
In bower and hall by warriors bold;
Who dropt the old heroic story
To kindle at my hero's glory.
His birth unknown,—but you might spy
In his clear front, and lofty eye,
Native nobility,—a claim
Felt and confessed where'er he came.—
Oft by Alveni's side he stood
In rugged hours of strife and blood,
The pillar of our house, and far
Roll'd danger from the banks of Var.
  In gratitude my friendship sprung—
On friendship love his blossoms hung,
And sweet the fruit. Why should I tell
How first the blushing secret fell

In music from his lips? 'Mid fears
And doubts our passion grew for years;
Till on a field his valour won
My sire triumphant hail'd him son!
And said the noblest of the land
Should yield to him his daughter's hand,
If he would deign—He clasp'd his knee,
And owned he fought and bled for me!
"For her, and not for fame, or spoil,
In war's determined ranks I toil.
For who Alveni's child would won,
Must prove himself a soldier's son!"
The bridal feast is drawn. The voice
Of music bids the heart rejoice.
Springs the light dance, the spirits rise
In throbbing veins and glancing eyes;
And in the many-tapered hall
One face of gladness smiles o'er all!
But what is mortal mirth? A gleam
Of star-light on a turbid stream,
Vivid—but in a moment gone—
And dark the sounding flood rolls on.—
Sudden, amid the glittering crowd,
An unrejoicing stranger stood:
His sun-scathed brow a turban crowned,
A daggered sash his tunic bound;
But, soiled and dim, his arms and dress
Bespoke a recreant's wretchedness.
As one, he seemed, in battle crossed,
His honour, cause, and courage lost;
But breathing still, in low estate,
An inextinguishable hate,
Feeding on desperate thoughts that burn,
Like watch-fires, till the day return.
Alone he stood, with gloomy air,
A statue 'neath the torches' glare;
For all with secret awe inspired
From the mysterious guest retired.
But as I gazed a flickering train
Of phantoms moved athwart my brain,
Confused with dreamlike reveries—
As when a breath disturbs the trees,
Sun-glimpses down the fluttering glade
In busy fragments sport with shade.
And when he raised his turban's fold,
And down his auburn tresses rolled,
Curling around his cheeks and brow,—
The tongue needs not interpret now!
Nor words express a brother's claim,
Or tell Correglia Lodi's name.
"My brother!"—"Oh my son!"—We flew
To clasp him—but he backward drew
Disdainful, while a hasty streak
Of anger flushed his marble cheek,
Leaving it paler, and his eyes
Shot lightning—"Touch me not," he cries,
"*I* cannot feign. This heart can feel
No more—its cords are cold as steel.
Forget me, as you had forgot,
Or seemed to do. It matters not.
"Have chains, and insults, and disgrace,
Worn child and brother from my face!
And disinheriting despair
Cast Lodi from Alveni's care,
That in his arms my deadliest foe,
The veriest fiend that breathes below,
Mohaled—hath a welcome found!"
(And threw a savage glance around.)—
"Him I demand," Alveni cried;
"Who told thee so, by heaven! hath lied!
And thou dost wrong me to give place
Within thy soul to thought so base."
Dubious he hears, and wavering seems
Shrunk in himself like one who dreams.
Then yielding with a generous tear,
"Forgive me Sire! Correglia dear!
Pardon a wretch who never knew
One love sincere—one friendship true;
Whose very blood severe distress
Hath turned to gall and bitterness.
This kind embrace renews the chain
Of filial sympathies. The pain
Of utter loneliness departs,
To feel I live in human hearts!
Even now thy renovating power
Hath half restored the gracious hour
Of youth, when, winged with buoyant minds,
We played 'mong flowers like summer winds.
Since then, alas! what woe, what pain
Hath wrung my heart, and parched my brain!
An exile, a dishonoured slave!
I've courted like a bride, the grave;
But heaven denied, and urged me still
Through each vicissitude of ill.
Or must I say in that dark strife
Hate was the principle of life,
Which linked my soul and stubborn frame,
Till I had washed in blood my fame!
Lest proud Mohaled—Wretch accurst!"
He cried, and sternly from us burst.—
And where his fiery glances fell
Stepped forward my betrothed Gobell.
He raised his stately head: "Beware!
I spared, but may not always spare!
Enow have bled—let those who live
Think of the present, and forgive."
"Traitor!" said Lodi, "thou dost well
Reminding me of those who fell!
Now let their spirits joy to see
Due vengeance done their wrongs by me!
And this arm like a withered bough
Shrink if it play the stripling now!"—
And struck with all his force, but erred;
Gobell unwounded grasped him hard
With circling arms,—through back and breast
His cruel steel the murderer prest!
Then to the floor, with haughty swing,
He threw him like a loathsome thing.
My eyes grew dark—a shrilly cry
Of grief and horror rung on high;
But motionless each coward hand,
And sheathed each slow and worthless brand,
Till through the ring, with dauntless stride,
Passed the tremendous homicide,
And far behind him threw the tower
And pursuit of Alveni's power."

(To be continued.)

LINES.

On visiting the Sepulchral Monument of Robert Burns, at Dumfries. (By Eaglesfield Smith, Esq.)

SCOTLAND'S sweet bard, "the muse's pride,"
Here starv'd amidst renown;
Here poor he lived, and poor he died,
The chief boast of your town.

Who from his sufferings turn'd aside,
Hard as these chisel'd stones;
Say, was't through penitence or pride
You thus entomb'd his bones?

For well I wot the bard we've lost,
Had sung in times to come,
Had he been spar'd but half the cost
You've lavished on his tomb. *

SONNET.

On receiving the Scenes of Infancy from a Lady.

DEPARTED patriot of the Border land,
Leyden, I love thy animated lay,
That swell'd, tho' mouldering fast into decay,
The magic harp of ancient Teviot's strand;
Which, tun'd to harmony at thy command,
Flings its wild notes by glen and flow'ry brae,
Then sweeps along the wold, and dies away
In solemn cadence by the breezes fann'd.
But O! if e'er I loved these strains of thine,
I love them more that thou'rt forever gone
To worship at a pure and heavenly shrine;
Yet more I love them, being the gift of one
To me a friend, of all friends most sincere,
And dearer even than thy Aurelia dear!

H.

OLD AGE, AND DEATH OF THE POOR.

A Fragment, in Imitation of Crabbe.

THE frugal widow, who, for many a mile,
To market long has trudged, by path and stile,
With hat of black, and cloak that once was red,
And basket cramm'd with eggs upon her head,
Or ducks or chickens her own hands had fed;
As time rolls on, with step less firm is seen
To mount the stile, or tread the village green;
Then bent and tottering joins the market throng,
But finds the road too rough, the way too long.
At last condemned, before her cottage door,
To view the travellers she must join no more.
Her utmost effort now to reach the wood,
And pick the faggot, for her evening's food;—
Which (pausing oft) she homewards still can bring,
Or draw, with feeble hand, her beverage from the spring.
Her children, once the objects of her care,
Must now, in turn, the hoarded shilling spare,
From distance sent, and grudging, one by one,
To help her needs,—for comforts she had none!
Alas! what comfort waits life's latest stage,
When poverty contends with trembling age?
The good old dame this bitter potion tried,
In patience tasted,—and in patience died!
Helpless,—alone,—without one stander by
To wet the lip, or close the glazing eye;
Unknown,—until, the day's long labour sped,
Some dropping neighbour called, and found that she was dead.
Summoned in haste, her nearest kindred come,
Unpaid, to bear her to her latest home.
Hopeless of scarf or gloves to smooth his toil,
His thoughts on hunting all intent the while,
(For it might chance, when to the grave was borne
The dame, it might be a clear scenting morn,
And tempting in his ear might sound the echoing horn.)
The mutter'd prayers in haste the parson read;
In haste, the surly sexton raised his spade,
And on the human earth the covering earth was laid.
The mute attendants, eager all to go,
Hear the last blessing, pay the parting bow;
Full of life's various cares, they quit the scene,
And scarce remember here that death has been;
All, save the son, who, as he home returns,
Thinks of the coffin yet unpaid,——and mourns.

* For every sore 'tis said there is a salve;
"They help'd to honour whom they help'd to starve."

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE.

SOME time ago an application was made to Government, by the University of Edinburgh, for the improvement of its museum of Natural History. For this purpose, it was requested, that instructions might be issued to the different ministers and public servants abroad, recommending that they should avail themselves of every opportunity of collecting specimens, and should transmit them to the University to be added to its museum. A favourable answer to this application having been received from Lord Castlereagh, Professor Jameson drew up the following directions as to the best mode of preserving the various objects of Natural History. We gladly avail ourselves of his obliging permission to insert them, as we are persuaded that, besides answering the object immediately in view, they will be found eminently useful to all who pursue the different branches of this extensive and important science.

Quadrupeds and Birds.—Quadrupeds and birds to be preserved by taking off their skins, which may be easily done, by making an incision in a straight line, from the vent to the throat, and removing the skin by means of a blunt knife. The skull and bones of the legs and feet are to be left. The brain, eyes, and tongue, ought also to be extracted. The skin, in order that it may be preserved from decay, should be also rubbed on the outside with some one of the following compositions: 1*st*, tanners' bark well dried and pounded, one part; burnt alum, one part; and in a hot climate one part of sulphur; to be well mixed together.—2*d*, tanners' bark well dried and pounded, one part; tobacco, perfectly dried, one part; burnt alum, one part: add to every ounce of these ingredients one ounce of camphor, and half an ounce of sulphur. (*N. B.* No sublimate or arsenic ought to be put on the skins, as both substances destroy their texture.) These compositions to be kept for use in well corked bottles or jars.

Skins, when thus prepared, and perfectly dry, must be packed carefully in boxes, the lids of which ought to be pasted up, and in the paste used in fixing the paper, a little corrosive sublimate must be put, which prevents insects from eating through the paper.

Reptiles and Fishes.—Reptiles and fishes are best preserved in spirit of wine, rum, or whisky, some of which must be injected into the stomach, through the mouth, and into the other intestines through the anus. Before putting them into bottles, jars, or barrels, they ought to be washed clean of slimy matter. If long kept in spirits before they are sent, the spirits should be changed two or three times. The jars or bottles ought to be closed by means of sheet-lead and bladders. The larger reptiles, as crocodiles, and the larger fishes, may be preserved in the same manner as quadrupeds and birds.

Animal Concretions.—Concretions of various kinds are occasionally found in the brain, lungs, heart, liver, kidneys, gall-bladder, intestines, and urinary bladder. The stomachs of many animals afford concretions of different kinds, particularly those known under the name of *Bezoar Stones*; and travellers inform us, that stones are met with in the eggs of the ostrich. All of these bodies are interesting and valuable to the natural historian.

Skeletons.—Collectors ought not to neglect to preserve the skeletons of the different species of animals. Of man, the skull is the most interesting part, as it varies in the different races of the human species, and is also frequently singularly altered by the practices of savage tribes. The best way of cleaning bones, is to expose them to the air, and allow the insects to eat off the flesh. This being done, they ought to be washed with sea water, and afterwards freely exposed to the sun. The best skulls are obtained by putting the whole head in rum or whisky, or a strong solution of alum; and both male and female heads ought if possible to be preserved.

Molluscous Animals,—Vermes and Zoophytes.—Molluscous animals, such as cuttle-fish, the inhabitants of shells, &c. Vermes or worms, and Zoophytes, or animals of the coral and other allied kinds, ought all to be preserved in spirits; and in the two former classes, viz. the Mollusca and Vermes, the spirit of wine should be injected into the intestines, by means of a syringe, to prevent the putrefaction of the internal parts, and the consequent destruction of the organs of digestion, respiration, and of the nervous system. Many Zoophytes or Corals, or rather their houses, may be preserved dry; but fragments of every species ought to be put into spirits, that the real structure of the animal may be discovered.

Shells.—Shells, or the coverings of Molluscous animals, are anxiously sought after by the naturalist, not only on account of their great beauty, but also from their intimate connection with the various fossil species met with in rocks of different kinds. The best live shells are collected by means of a trawling-net, such as is used by fishermen, if the depths are not too great; they are also brought up by the cable in weigh-

ing anchor, the log-line, and in sounding.

After a storm, good shells may be picked up on sea beaches or shores, as the violent agitation of the ocean in a tempest separates them from their native beds, and often casts them on the shore. Shells that have been much tossed about by the waves, are of less value than fresh ones; but these, when other specimens are not to be got, ought to be carefully collected. Many interesting shells are found in rivers and lakes; and numerous species occur on the surface of the land.

Fresh shells, or those in which the animal is still alive, ought to be thrown into hot water, the temperature of which may be gradually brought to the boiling point, by the repeated additions of hotter portions, by which means the animal will be killed. The shells are allowed to cool for two or three minutes, and then the animal is picked out.

Insects.—Beetles of every kind are speedily deprived of life by putting into boiling water, which does not injure those having black, brown, or any dark colour; but those which are covered with fine down, or have brilliant colours and lustre, should not be exposed to moisture, but are easily killed, if put into a phial, and placed in a vessel of boiling water for some time. When the insects are quite motionless, such as have been in the water should be exposed to the air and sun for a day or two, until perfectly dry. In this state, they are to be placed in boxes with cotton-wool, along with camphor. Beetles may also be preserved in spirit of wine.

Butterflies, moths, and many other tribes of insects, with delicate and tender wings, may be easily killed, by pressing the thorax or breast betwixt the finger and thumb; and it is preferable to have the wings closed, because they thus occupy less space, their colour and lustre are better preserved, and they can be expanded afterwards by the steam of hot water. Care should be taken that the antennæ or feelers and legs are not injured. A pin should be stuck through them, by means of which they are fastened to the bottom of a box lined with cork, or to one of deal, or other soft wood. Camphor ought to be put into the box.

The Arachnides or Spiders are best preserved in spirits.

In collecting insects, we use either the forceps or a net. The forceps are about ten or twelve inches in length, provided with fans of a circular or other form, and are covered with fine gauze. They are held and moved as a pair of scissars. The net is very easily made. It is of gauze, or any very fine open muslin, made upon a piece of cane of four feet long, split down the middle about the half of the length: the split part is tied together, so as to form a hoop, upon which the gauze is sewed in the form of a bag; the lower part serves as a handle, and with this, all flying insects may be very easily caught. When the insect is once within the rim of the net, by turning it on either side, its escape is completely prevented by the pressure of the gauze or muslin against the edge of the hoop.

Crabs.—Crabs, Lobsters, &c. may be suffocated in spirits of wine or turpentine, and then dried in an oven.

Crustaceous Animals.—Sea Stars, after washing in fresh water, may be extended on boards by means of pins, and when dry, laid between folds of paper, and packed in a box with a little camphor.

In Echini or Sea Eggs, the soft internal parts are to be extracted by the anus: they are then to be stuffed with cotton, and carefully packed with tow or cotton. Particular attention should be paid to the preserving of the spines.

Seeds.—In collecting seeds, it is desirable that they should be well ripened, and dried in the sun. Large quantities should never be put together, but only a few, and these well selected. They retain their vegetative powers much better if tied up in linen or cotton cloth, than in any other substances; and if then packed up in small boxes, and placed in an airy part of the ship, there is every probability of their arriving in a sound state. The same remark applies to bulbous roots. Bulbs should never be put in the same box with seeds. The boxes with seeds, and with bulbs, ought never to be put into the ship's hold.

Dried Plants.—The greater part of plants dry easily between leaves of books, or other paper. If there be plenty of paper, they often dry best without shifting; but if the specimens are crowded, they must be taken out frequently, and the paper dried before they are replaced. Those plants which are very tenacious of life, ought to be killed by the application of a hot iron, such as is used for linen, after which they are easily dried. The collections to be carefully packed in boxes with camphor, and closed in the same manner as directed for quadrupeds and birds.

Minerals.—1. Every mineral, from the most common clay or sand, to the gem, ought to be collected.

2. Specimens of rocks, such as granite, porphyry, limestone, &c. should, if possible, be broken from fixed rocks, and not from loose masses, which are generally decayed. In selecting the specimens, one set ought to represent the different varieties of appearance presented by the rock in the fresh state, another, the rock in its different states of decomposition.

3. When the specimens of simple minerals, or rocks, contain crystals, they ought to be wrapped in gauze-paper, then in cot-

ton, and afterwards in several folds of strong wrapping-paper.

4. The specimens of rocks ought, if possible, never to be less than four inches square, and one inch in thickness, and of a square form. As soon as they have been prepared, they should be labelled, and wrapped in several folds of strong wrapping-paper. When paper cannot be procured, moss, or other soft vegetable substance, may be substituted for it.

5. The sands of deserts, steppes, and rivers, ought to be carefully collected. The sands of rivers often contain precious stones and metals, and hence become very interesting objects to the naturalist. The sands of deserts and steppes throw much light on the nature of the surrounding country, and are much prized by the geologist.

6. Numerous mineralized animal and vegetable remains occur imbedded in strata of different kinds; all these ought to be very carefully collected, and preserved. Abundance of shells in a fossil or petrified state, are met with in limestone; of vegetables in slate-clay, sandstone, &c.; and numerous bones, and even whole skeletons of quadrupeds, birds, amphibious animals, fishes, and even of insects, occur in rocks of various descriptions.

7. The mineralogist ought to provide himself with hammers of various sizes. One for common use of two pounds weight; others, three, four, and six pounds weight. He ought also to provide himself with chisels of various sizes and forms, and with a set of small boring-irons. A miner's compass, small magnifying glass, goniometer, and blow-pipe, ought also to form part of his equipment. The two first are indispensably necessary for the travelling mineralogist. Nor should he neglect to provide himself with a strong bag; the form that of a fowling-bag, lined with strong leather, covered with wax-cloth, and the outside of some durable cloth.

Antiquities, Articles of Dress, Agricultural, Hunting, and Warlike Instruments, &c. of different Nations and Tribes.—The collecting of the various articles just enumerated, is particularly recommended, as these objects illustrate, in a very interesting manner. the past and present condition of the human species.

Drawings.—Drawings of zoological and geological subjects,—also of the scenery of countries,—the costume of different nations and tribes,—form valuable documents for the natural historian.

So great is the superiority of gas-light to that of the common lamp, that the whole of the New Mint, with the surrounding military way, and adjoining edifices, have been lighted with gas. The apparatus is constructed on a new plan, and is erected within the walls of the mint. The gas is prepared, not by distilling coal in retorts, as hitherto, but by means of a cylinder kept red hot, and revolving round its axis. The cylinder is upwards of ten feet in diameter, and produces, in twenty-four hours, a sufficient quantity of gas to light sixteen hundred lamps. The purification of the crude coal-gas is effected by chlorine instead of quicklime, and all the inlet and outlet mains and pipes are made to open and shut by mercurial valves. The quantity of gas daily made and consumed by the burners and lamps is registered, in the absence of the observer, on a dial-plate of a machine, the moving power of which is gas. The effect of the numerous lights scattered upon so extensive a scale over the beautiful machinery of the coining processes, is very striking.

Mr James Kirk, of Smeaton, adopts the following method for preventing the mildew on peach-trees: In the months of January and February, if the trees are in a stunted or sickly state, he takes away all the old mould from the roots as carefully as possible, and puts in its place fresh rotten turf from an old pasture, without any dung; and the trees have not only completely recovered their health, but produced a crop of fine swelled fruit.

Mr Smeall, gardener to Mr Liston, of Millburn Tower, has found out a simple, cheap, and effectual method of preventing hares and rabbits from injuring fruit or other trees by eating the bark in winter. It is this:—Take hog's lard, and as much whale oil as will work it up into a thin paste or paint, with which gently rub the stems of the trees upwards at the fall of the leaf. If this application be repeated once in two years, it will prevent the depredations of those animals, without the slightest injury to the trees.

Dr Richard Pearson, of Sutton Coldfield, states, that, after various attempts, he has succeeded in forming a vegetable compound, by which persons engaged in exploring hot and desert regions might be saved from perishing by hunger and thirst. The ingredients are few, reducible to a small bulk, and not liable, in the state of composition, to spoil by keeping. With a pint of jelly made from starch with boiling water, mix two ounces of gum arabic and half a drachm of catechu, both previously reduced to powder, and to the whole then add one drachm of crystallized citric acid, also pulverized. Spread the compound upon a clean board or paper, and gradually dry it in an oven of a gentle heat, till it becomes hard and brittle, when it may be broken into pieces of a proper size for being carried in the pocket. Dr Pearson calculates that two ounces of this compound will sustain life for 24 hours, but supposes, that, during the exertion of travelling, four ounces may be required; so that 2 lbs.

would last a person, totally destitute of every other sort of aliment, eight days, by which time, he would probably arrive at some place where other food might be procured.

A supplement to the first three volumes of *Mithridates*, commenced by Adelung, and continued by Dr J. S. Vater, has just appeared. A memoir by Baron Von Humboldt on the Basque language forms part of this volume.

Professor Ewers has published in German, at Petersburgh, the first volume of his *History of Russia*, in which particular regard is paid to the internal devolopement of the Russian monarchy. This volume comes down to Peter the Great. The same writer, in association with M. Von Engelhardt, has also published the first part of the first volume of *Contributions to the Knowledge of Russia and its History*. M. Von Engelhardt has moreover given to the public an *Introduction to Geognosy*.

ITALY.

The Abbé Jannelli has discovered in the royal library at Naples, a MS. of Dracontius, a Christian poet of the fifth century. It contains ten short Latin poems, not only inedited, but absolutely unknown. This collection has furnished Jannelli with interesting particulars, which enable him to speak with precision of various circumstances of the life of Dracontius, concerning whom other writers have recorded so many fables. He has not thought fit to publish all these pieces, because most of them ought rather to be called declamations, resembling those of Aristides and Libanius in Greek prose; but merely quotes the principal passages in his life of Dracontius. He has introduced entire only two of the best and most interesting: these are also the longest. The subjects of them are mythological; one is entitled *Media*, and the other the *Rape of Helen*.

Among the MSS. recently discovered in the same library, and since published or about to be published, are the following:—

Treatise on the Pulse, by Mercury, the monk. The Greek text is translated into Latin, and illustrated with a commentary by M. Salvadore Cirillo, secretary of the royal library. The same M. Cirillo has also published—

A Homily of St John Chrysostom, held on Whitsunday, translated from the original Greek into Latin.

A Monody for the Queen, (Irene Paleologa,) written in Latin, by George Gemistius Pletho, with commentaries.

Manuel of Geography, by Nicephorus Blemmidas, translated into Latin from the Greek MS. At press.

Complete Treatise on Urine, by Albizziano, translated into Greek by John Actuarius, from the original Arabic of Avicenna, and into Latin from the Greek version. At press.

Answers of Photius, Patriarch of Constantinople, to the Questions of Amphilochus, translated from the Greek into Latin, with commentaries by the Abbé Angel-Antonio Scotti.

Researches have been commenced at Pompeii behind the house of Sallust, otherwise denominated *di Attcone*, from the superb picture of Diana and Actæon which adorns the court-yard. At the depth of seven palms were found four skeletons, two of men, one of a woman, and the fourth of a child. They were covered with a vitrified stratum, of the kind of lava called *rapillo*, volcanic ashes and brown stones. This family had doubtless sought shelter there, when the explosion of Vesuvius threatened destruction to Pompeii and the neighbouring towns. The bones of the child were mingled with those of the mother. It would appear that these unfortunate people had fled with such valuables as they could carry away; and, overtaken by the calamity, had retired to this hut, where they were buried beneath the ashes. On examining the volcanic matter which covered the skeletons, there were found a candelabrium with three feet, in good preservation; a small patera; a fine vase, the handle wanting; another vase partly broken; a mould for pastry, in the form of a shell; three *strigiles*; a fine antique head of a faun in marble; gold bracelets, ear-rings, and rings with engraved stones; 32 pieces of small silver coin, and some other articles. On searching the other parts of the house, various things, which certainly belonged to another family, were found. The munificence of the government spares no expence in prosecuting these researches, and workmen are employed in clearing the ancient road between the Basilica and the temples of Jupiter and Venus, and the house of Fortunata. This space, of abont 100 paces, was nearly the centre of the town. In this direction a transverse street has been laid open, with houses on either side, and a fountain.

FRANCE.

The third volume of the History of the Crusades, by M. Michaud, is recently published; it is a very finely written performance, and displays vast research.

The History of Joan of Arc, by M. Le Brun des Charmettes, has just appeared. The author may fairly be said to have exhausted his subject; not content with the documents furnished by the public libraries in Paris, he spent six months at London, in examining the manuscripts at the Tower, and in the British Museum. His work is of great historical importance, and throws new light on the history of that age.

M. Grivaud de la Vincelle, who possesses a fine cabinet of antiquities at Paris, has just published a very learned work, with the title of *Recueil de Monumens Antiques, la plupart inedits et decouverts dans l'ancienne Gaule*, in 2 vols. 4to, and a volume of plates, which may be considered as a continuation of the collections of Count de Caylus and la Sauvagère. Great part of the antiquities, here described and represented by M. Grivaud, are in his own cabinet, which is worthy of the inspection of all travellers who have any taste for the arts.

In 1815 M. Yvart read some memoirs to the Royal Academy of Sciences at Paris, to prove that the barberry is the cause of that most destructive disease of corn—mildew. He grounded this inference not only on the results of experiments made by himself in 1802, in a field which was for thirteen days covered by an inundation of the Seine, and in 1815 in a field situated at the conflux of that river and the Marne; but also on the vulgar opinion in various parts of France, England, Switzerland, Germany, Italy, and America, and its adoption by persons eminent for agricultural knowledge. M. Yvart therefore assumes it as a fact, that the presence of the barberry is more or less injurious to the growth of corn; that it even powerfully opposes the formation of the germs, and renders the straw very unwholesome for cattle. This opinion is nevertheless attacked in the *Bibliotheque Physico-economique*; and a report on this subject made to the Academy of Sciences at Bourdeaux, by a committee appointed for the purpose, attests, that their experiments have been attended with results contrary to those of M. Yvart; and the committee are therefore of opinion that the barberry, between the flowering of which shrub and that of wheat there is an interval of two months, cannot have any influence upon that grain. This report is inserted in the *Bulletin Polymathique*, which has for several years past been published in monthly numbers at Bourdeaux.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

It has long been known that large masses of native copper exist in the neighbourhood of Lake Superior. On one occasion, a company was formed in England, with a large capital, to work the mines; and on another an agent was to have been sent by order of Congress to explore the mineral treasures of this country. A specimen of this copper has been just received by Dr Mitchill, of New York, from Dr Le Barron, apothecary general of the United States, with information that a body of this virgin metal, heavier perhaps than any in the known world, is now lying in the bed of the Onatanagan river, a stream running into Lake Superior from the south. It is reported to measure in circumference twelve feet at one end, and fourteen feet round at the other. As far as a judgment can be formed, the mass is compact throughout, and of singular purity. The specimen was accompanied by a curious map of the western half of Lake Superior, drawn by a youth of the Chippewa tribe. On this are delineated the Onatanagan, and the place where the native copper exists; as are also all the memorable streams, bays, and islands to the bottom of the Lake.

ISLAND OF JAVA.

The Penang Gazette of Feb. 10, 1816, contains the following article on the volcanic springs of boiling mud in Java:

Having received an extraordinary account of a natural phenomenon in the plains of Grobogna, fifty paals north-east of Solo, a party set off from Solo, the 25th September 1814, to examine it. On approaching the dass or village of Kuhoo, they saw, between two topes of trees, in a plain, an appearance like the surf breaking over rocks, with a strong spray falling to leeward. Alighting, they went to the "Bluddugs," as the Javanese call them. They are situated in the village of Kuhoo, and by Europeans are called by that name. We found them to be on an elevated plain of mud, about two miles in circumference, in the centre of which immense bodies of soft mud were thrown up to the height of ten to fifteen feet, in the form of large bubbles, which bursting, emitted great volumes of dense white smoke. These large bubbles, of which there were two, continued throwing up and bursting seven or eight times in a minute by the watch;—at times they threw up two or three tons of mud. They got to leeward of the smoke, and found it to stink like the washings of a gun-barrel. As the bubbles burst, they threw the mud out from the centre, with a pretty loud noise, occasioned by the falling of the mud on that which surrounded it, and of which the plain is composed. It was difficult and dangerous to approach the large bubbles, as the ground was all a quagmire, except where the surface of the mud had become hardened by the sun; upon this, we approached cautiously to within fifty yards of one of the largest bubbles, or mud-pudding as it might properly be called, for it was of the consistency of custard-pudding, and was about one hundred yards in diameter; here and there, where the foot accidentally rested on a spot not sufficiently hardened to bear, it sunk, to the no small distress of the walker.

They also got close to small bubble, (the plain was full of them, of different sizes,) and observed it closely for some time. It appeared to heave and swell, and, when the internal air had raised it to some

height, it burst, and the mud fell down in concentric circles, in which state it remained quiet until a sufficient quantity of air again formed internally to raise and burst another bubble, and this continued at intervals of from about half a minute to two minutes.

From various other parts of the pudding round the large bubbles, there were occasionally small quantities of sand shot up like rockets to the height of twenty or thirty feet, unaccompanied by smoke; this was in parts where the mud was of too stiff a consistency to rise in bubbles. The mud at all the places we came near was cold.

The water which drains from the mud is collected by the Javanese, and, being exposed in the hollows of split bamboos to the rays of the sun, deposits crystals of salt. The salt thus made is reserved exclusively for the use of the Emperor of Solo. In dry weather it yields thirty dudgins of 100 catties each, every month, but in wet or cloudy weather less.

Next morning we rode two and a half paals to a place in a forest called Ramsam, to view a salt lake, a mud hillock, and various boiling pools.

The lake was about half a mile in circumference, of a dirty looking water, boiling up all over in gurgling eddies, but more particularly in the centre, which appeared like a strong spring. The water was quite cold, and tasted bitter, salt, and sour, and had an offensive smell.

About thirty yards from the lake stood the mud hillock, which was about fifteen feet high from the level of the earth. The diameter of its base was about twenty-five yards, and its top about eight feet; and in form an exact cone. The top is open, and the interior keeps constantly boiling and heaving up like the bluddugs. The hillock is entirely formed of mud, which has flowed out of the top;—every rise of the mud was accompanied by a rumbling noise from the bottom of the hillock, which was distinctly heard for some seconds before the bubble burst;—the outside of the hillock was quite firm. We stood on the edge of the opening, and sounded it, and found it to be eleven fathoms deep. The mud was more liquid than at the bluddugs, and no smoke was emitted either from the lake, hillock, or pools.

Close to the foot of the hillock was a small pool of the same water as the lake, which appeared exactly like a pot of water boiling violently; it was shallow, except in the centre, into which we thrust a stick twelve feet long, but found no bottom. The hole not being perpendicular, we could not sound it without a line.

About 200 yards from the lake were two very large pools or springs, eight and twelve feet in diameter; they were like the small pool, but boiled more violently and stunk excessively. We could not sound them for the same reason which prevented our sounding the small pool.

We heard the boiling thirty yards before we came to the pools, resembling the noise of a waterfall. These pools did not overflow—of course the bubbling was occasioned by the rising of air alone. The water of the bluddugs and the lake is used medicinally by the Javanese.

WORKS PREPARING FOR PUBLICATION.

LONDON.

Dr James Johnson, surgeon to H. R. H. the Duke of Clarence, author of the "Influence of Tropical Climates on European Constitutions," and one of the editors of the Medico-Chirurgical Review, has in the press, dedicated to the Duke of Clarence, An Essay on the Prolongation of Life and Conservation of Health; unfolding original views and fundamental principles for their attainment; and embracing observations on the nature, cause, and treatment of the principal diseases which assail the British constitution in its native climate. To which are added, Practical Researches on the Pathology, Treatment, and Prevention of Gout and Rheumatism in all their Protean forms; the whole adapted to *general* perusal.

The Rev. Archdeacon Pott will speedily publish, in two volumes, a Course of Sermons for the Lord's Day throughout the year, adapted to and chiefly taken from the Service for the Day.

The Rev. Dr Hales has announced, by subscription, a publication in two 8vo volumes, with the title of Faith in the Holy Trinity the Doctrine of the Gospel; and Sabellian Unitarianism shown to be the "God-denying Apostacy."

Miss Eliza B. Lester has in the press, The Quakers, a tale, in a 12mo volume.

The History of Ellesmere and Rosa will speedily appear in two volumes, 12mo.

The Rev. Isaac Taylor, of Ongar, is about to publish a work entitled, Self-Cultivation Recommended; or, Hints to a Youth leaving School.

The Northern Courts; containing original memoirs of the Sovereigns of Sweden and Denmark, from 1766 to the present time, including the extraordinary vicissi-

tudes of the Lives of the Grandchildren of George the Second; by John Brown, author of the Mysteries of Neutralization, &c. is at press, and will shortly be published.

The third and last part of Dr E. D. Clarke's Travels is in the press.

The Rev. F. Homfray will soon publish Thoughts on Happiness, a poem.

An English translation of the German novel, Lawrence Stark, by Professor Engel, is in the press.

A novel entitled, The Actress of the present Day; or, Scenes and Portraits from Real Life, will soon appear, in 3 vols.

The lovers of poetry will rejoice to hear that the Fourth Canto of Lord Byron's Childe Harold has arrived from the Continent.

Mr Matchett, of the *Norfolk Chronicle*, is compiling a Topographical Dictionary of the County of Norfolk, which he hopes to complete in the course of the winter, from official returns and registers, or from his own sources of local information. It is intended to be comprised in one large octavo volume, embellished with maps and views, some of which are already engraved, and printed on royal paper, to correspond with Miller's edition of Bloomfield's History of Norfolk, to which it promises to be a most useful supplement.

Dr Buchanan, well known for a valuable work on Hindostan, will immediately put to press an Account of the Kingdom of Nepaul, where he practised as a physician for several years, during which time he was employed in collecting information relative to the natural, civil, and political condition of that country.

A Narrative of Discoveries in Africa, by Mr Burkhardt, who has been for some years travelling in the countries south of Egypt, in the disguise of an Arab, under the auspices of the African Association, is in the press. He is still prosecuting his discoveries, and is said to entertain sanguine hopes of being able to penetrate to Tombuctoo from the east, and proceed from that city to the western coast.

Mr T. Squire, of Epping, has announced a Grammar of the Elements of Astronomy, enriched with every variety of embellishment of which the subject is susceptible, so as to address the understanding through the medium of the eye.

Mr Luke Howard is preparing for publication a work on Meteorology.

Mr Frederick A. Clarke, of Battersea Rise, will speedily publish An Explanation of the Plan of the Equitable Trade Society and Chamber of Commerce, instituted at London in 1817; together with observations and suggestions, connected with the subject, calculated to promote the improvement of trade; to which are added, the Rules and Regulations of the Institution.

The Rev. Robert Burnside has in the press, the Religion of Mankind, in a series of Essays, in 2 vols. 8vo.

Shortly will be published, in two 12mo. volumes, Delusion, a novel, by the author of Julia of Ardenfield.

Sir Richard Phillips intends to reprint in a separate tract, his Essays on a new Theory of the Physical Laws of the Universe; and to subjoin all the answers which appear, with the names of the writers.

A Prospectus has been issued for publishing, by subscription, in two neat pocket volumes, Poems, by Mr Richard Hatt, author of the "Hermit," &c.; which will be accompanied with an elegant frontispiece, from a design by Lewis.

Mr W. Wright, of Bristol, has a work on the Human Ear nearly ready for publication: in which the structure and functions of that organ will be anatomically and physically explained.

In a few days will be published, "Family Suppers, or Evening Stories, for the Instruction and Amusement of Young Persons;" by Lady Mary H.....; illustrated by sixteen beautiful engravings; and, in the course of a fortnight, the same will be published in French.

The third volume of Mr Shaw Mason's Statistical Survey of Ireland will soon appear.

In a few weeks will be published, a Complete History of the Spanish Inquisition, from the period of its Establishment by Ferdinand V. to the present Time, drawn from the most authentic documents; by Don Juan Antonia Llorente, one of the principal officers of the Inquisitorial Court, chancellor of the University of Toledo, knight of the order of Charles III., and member of several academies.

Dr Coote will speedily publish a third edition of the History of Europe, from the year 1763, to the treaty of Amiens in 1802; and a new volume, continuing the period from 1802 to the pacification of Paris in 1815; these two volumes are written as a continuation of Dr Russell's History of Modern Europe.

Major Wyvill, late of the third Royal Veterans, will shortly publish, by subscription, "His Military Life," containing descriptions of various parts of the world where he has served,—anecdotes of many officers of rank, now living,—and some account of the court-martial by which he was tried when major of the battalion which he commanded above six years.

Captain Maconochie, royal navy, is preparing for the press a summary view of the Statistics and existing Commerce of the principal Shores of the Pacific Ocean, with a detail of some of the most prominent advantages which would seem connected with the Establishment of a Central Colony within its limits. To this Captain M. proposes to

ubjoin the particulars of a plan for facilitating generally the communication between the whole Southern Hemisphere and the Northern or Atlantic Markets, with a Review of the principal consequences, Political and Commercial, which would seem connected with the adoption of that proposal. The work will be illustrated by a skeleton chart, and the whole will be comprised within the limits of a small octavo volume.

EDINBURGH.

A Monody on the Death of Her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte of Wales is in the press, and will appear in a few days. *

The Rev. Alexander Macgowan has nearly completed a treatise, embracing the whole subject of Rhetorical Pronunciation, or Delivery; a work in which the author hopes to communicate many important discoveries, by means of which elocution may now be taught with as great certainty and precision as the grammar of any language.

The work consists of Six Parts:

1. Dissertations on the Present State of Elocution.
2. Lectures on the music or melody of Language.
3. Scientific Theory of Universal Elocution.
4. Metrical Abridgment of the Theory, containing the Rules necessary to be committed to memory; with Examples and Exercises.
5. Illustration of the Theory by Scales of Sounds, and Musical marks.
6. The Theory of Attitudes, and of Action.

Mr James Macgowan will speedily publish A Practical English Grammar, in which, besides other improvements, the Syntax is greatly simplified, by treating, (as Dr Adam has done in his Latin Grammar) *First*, of the construction of *Simple* sentences only; reserving the consideration of *Complex* sentences for a *Second* chapter. By this arrangement, the construction of Relatives and Conjunctions, and all the other difficulties, are delayed till the pupil be sufficiently prepared to encounter them with success.

Dr Thomas Brown is about to publish a new edition of his Enquiry into the relation of Cause and Effect. It will comprehend a view of many of the sources of the prevalent errors on this subject, which were not examined in the two former editions, and will be as much altered in the disposition of its parts, and so nearly rewritten, as to constitute almost a new work.

The Rev. Mr Maturin, author of the tragedy of *Bertram*, is printing a tale, in 3 volumes, entitled, "Women, or *Pour et Contre*."

Speedily will be published, in a series of Letters, a View of the History of Scotland, from the earliest records to the Rebellion in the year 1745.

Captain Thomas Brown, author of "The Elements of Conchology," has in the press the Conchology of Great Britain and Ireland, illustrated with numerous beautiful Engravings.

The same Author has in great forwardness, Zoological Elements, or an Introduction to the Natural History of the Animal Kingdom.

Dr Jameson has in the press an Abridgment of his celebrated Dictionary of the Scottish Language, comprised in one octavo volume.

Mr Warden, late Consul-General to the United States at Paris, has in great forwardness a Statistical and Historical Account of the United States of America, from the period of the first Establishments to the present Day, in 3 vols. octavo.

* Through the kindness of the author (whom we have also the satisfaction of ranking among our earliest contributors) we have been indulged with the perusal of the first half-sheet of this little poem, just sent to press. Our present Number was unfortunately too far advanced to admit of any extracts from it; but we cannot avoid expressing our gratification with the short specimen we have seen, which we know not how to characterize more appropriately than by saying, that it seems quite worthy of the author's talents, and of the very affecting subject which he has chosen.—*Edit.*

MONTHLY LIST OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

LONDON.

ARTS, FINE.

Mr Britton, whose meritorious exertions as an antiquary and topographer are so well known, has published an elegant *Vademecum* relative to *Norwich Cathedral*, containing all the requisite information for a visitor. It is illustrated by a neat and correct ground-plan, and well engraved views of the western front, of the font, and of Erpingham-gate.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

A Manual of useful Knowledge, being a Collection of valuable and Miscellaneous Receipts and Philosophical Experiments, selected from various Authors; by William Pybus. 18mo. 10s. 6d.

The Journal of Science and the Arts, edited at the Royal Institution. No. 7, with plates. 8vo. 7s. 6d.

CHEMISTRY.

A System of Chemistry; by T. Thomson, M.D. F.R.S. &c. the fifth edition. 4 vols. 8vo. 3l.

DRAMA.

Incog; or Three Weeks at a well-known Hotel; a Farce, in two Acts, as performing at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane; by W. A. Keep. 2s. 6d.

The Vicar of Wakefield, a Melo-dramatic Burletta, in three Acts; by Thomas Dibdin, Esq. 1s. 6d.

The Youthful Days of Frederic the Great; a Melo-drama, in two Acts.

The Peasant of Lucern, a Melo-drama; by Geo. Soane. 3s. 6d.

EDUCATION.

A Practical Essay on Intellectual Education, with an ample Catalogue Raisonné of Elementary Books of Instruction, and a View of the most approved Methods of Tuition; by William Jaques. 4s. 6d.

History made Easy, or a Genealogical Chart of the Kings and Queens of England since the Conquest; by Mr Reynard.

A Key to the same.

Letters on English History for the Use of Schools; by J. Bigland. 12mo. 6s.

A Companion to the Globes; comprising the various Problems that may be performed by the Globes, accompanied by more than One Thousand Examples. 4s. 6d.

HISTORY.

A new History of Berwick-upon-Tweed, with historical notices of the neighbouring Villages, including a compendium of Border History, accompanied with a plan of the town; by the Rev. T. Johnson. 12mo. 5s.

LAW.

Kearsley's Tax Tables for 1818. 1s. 6d.

A new Arrangement of Lord Coke's first Institute of the Laws of England, on the plan of Sir Mathew Hale's Analysis, &c.; by J. H. Thomas, Esq. 3 vols. 8vo.

A Select Law Library, containing the whole Law now in force relative to Parish Officers, Landlords, Tenants, and Lodgers; Wills, Codicils, and Revocations; Bankrupts; Bills of Exchange; Buying and Selling of Horses, Game, &c.; by Henry Clavering, Esq. Barrister at Law. 8vo. L.1, 2s. 6d.

The Law of Bankrupts, their Creditors and Assignees, from the Issuing the Commission to the Allowance and Confirmation of the Certificate by the Lord Chancellor; by Soame Whitaker, Esq. Barrister at Law. 4s.

MEDICINE.

Results of an Investigation respecting Epidemic and Pestilential Diseases, including Researches in the Levant, concerning the Plague; by Charles Maclean, M.D. lecturer on the diseases of hot climates to the Hon. East India Company. Vol. I. 15s.

Observations on the casual and periodical Influence of particular States of the Atmosphere on Human Health and Diseases, particularly Insanity; by Thomas Forster, F.L.S. 8vo. 4s.

Sketch of the History and Cure of Febrile Diseases, more particularly as they appear in the West Indies among the Soldiers of the British Army; by R. Jackson, M.D.

Delineations of the Cutaneous Diseases comprised in the Classification of the late Dr Willan; including the greater part of the engravings of that author, in an improved state, and completing the series as intended to have been finished by him; by T. Bateman, M.D. F.L.S. 1 vol. 4to, with upwards of seventy coloured plates. 12l. 12s.

The History and Practice of Vaccination; by James Moore, Esq. Director of the National Vaccine Establishment. 8vo. 9s.

An Essay on the Vital Functions; by Wilson Phillip, Esq. 8vo. 10s. 6d.

Cases of Diseased Prepuce and Scrotum; by W. Wadd, Esq. surgeon. 4to. 11s.

The Hospital-Pupil's Guide; being oracular communications addressed to students of the medical profession; by Æsculapius. 3s. 6d.

A Sequel to an Essay on the Yellow Fever, principally intended to prove, by incontestable facts and important documents, that the Fever called Bulam or Pestilential has no existence as a distinct or a Contagious Disease; by Edward Nathaniel Bancroft, M.D. 8vo. 14s.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The East India Register for 1817. 7s. 6d.

Fairs; the Victims of Pleasure; or Scenes in Humble Life; designed to shew the Evils of Fairs and Sabbath-breaking, 1s. 6d.

Cortez; or, the Conquest of Mexico; as related by a Father to his Children, and designed for the Instruction of Youth; translated from the German of J. H. Campe; by Eliz. Helme. 5s. 6d. new edit.

British Field Sports; embracing practical Instructions in Shooting, Hunting, Coursing, Racing, Fishing, &c. with Observations on the Training of Dogs and Horses, and the Management of all Sporting Implements; by Wm. Henry Scott. Parts I. and II. (to be completed in 12 monthly parts) 3s. each.

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counts by Double Entry, (together with specimens of the Grain Books, &c.) and an improved method of calculating the Rent on Corn granaried, at any given rate; by Charles Scott. 1s. 6d.

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NATURAL HISTORY.

The Naturalist's Pocket Book, or Tourist's Companion; being a brief introduction to the different branches of Natural History; by G. Graves, F.L.S. 21s. coloured; 14s. plain.

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The Knight of St John, a Romance; by Miss Anna Maria Porter. 3 vols. 12mo.

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Poems and Songs, chiefly in the Scotish Dialect; by Robert Tannahill. To which is prefixed a notice respecting his life and writings. 8s.

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Papers relative to Codification and Public Instruction; including Correspondence with the Emperor of Russia, &c.; by Jeremy Bentham. 8vo.

A Letter to the Right Hon. Robert Peel, in Answer to his Speech, May 9, on the Catholic Question. 2s. 6d.

Suggestions for the Employment of the Poor of the Metropolis, and the Direction of their Labours to the Benefit of the Inhabitants; with Hints on Mendicity; by Henry Barnet Gascoigne. 1s.

Interesting Observations on the present Disturbances of the Spanish Colonies, and on the best Means of bringing them to a good Understanding with the Mother Country. Written by a native of Old Spain. 3s.

A Sketch of the Military and Political Power of Rusia in the Year 1817. 8vo. 8s.

A Letter addressed to the Gentlemen Commoners of Worcestershire on the Danger of Innovation to a Government, and more particularly on the fatal Tendency of those Measures, employed by Factious and Designing Men to alienate the Subjects of Great Britain from their Allegiance, and to provoke them to Insurrection against the State; by a Gentleman of Worcestershire. 8vo. 1s. 6d.

Second Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons on the Police, with the Minutes of Evidence. 7s.

An Historical Research into the Nature of the Balance of Power in Europe; by G. F. Leckie. 8vo. 10s. 6d.

An Essay on Public Credit; by David Hume. First printed in 1752. With a Letter addressed to the People of Great Britain and Ireland on the prophetic character of its principles, and shewing from indisputable facts, that a National Bankruptcy must ultimately be produced by a perseverance in the Pitt and Paper System.

THEOLOGY.

The Nature and Tendency of Apostolical Preaching considered: a Sermon preached at St Michael's Church, Bath; by the Rev. W. Dealtry, B.D. rector of Clapham. 1s. 6d.

Plurality of Worlds; or, Letters, Notes, and Memoranda, Philosophical and Critical, occasioned by "A Series of Discourses on the Christian Revelation, viewed in Connection with the Modern Astronomy," as published by the Rev. Dr Chalmers. 5s.

A Visitation Sermon, preached at Oxford, August 29, 1817; by F. Haggitt, D.D. prebendary of Durham. 1s. 6d.

A Sketch of the Foundation of the Christian Church, according to Holy Scripture; by the Rev. J. L. Girdlestone, A.M. Part I. 3s.

A Sermon preached at Cowbridge, at the primary Visitation of the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Llandaff; by the Rev. Scawen Plumptre, A.M. chaplain to the Right Hon. the Countess of Aylesford, and vicar of Llamblethlen, &c.

A Sermon, entitled, Unauthorized Zeal the Cause of Evil, as applicable to the case of Itinerant Preaching; being intended as a sequel to "The Admonition of our Lord to his Disciples;" by the Rev. James Duke Coleridge. 1s. 6d.

The Character of St Paul, as a Minister of the Gospel, shortly stated and applied. A Sermon preached at the Visitation of the Rev. the Archdeacon, at Leicester, June 17, 1817, and published at the request of the archdeacon and clergy; by the Rev. E. T. M. Phillips, A.M. rector of Hathern, Leicester, and chaplain to the Lord Bishop of Gloucester. 2s.

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a detailed History and familiar Explication of the Virtues of that Holy Servant of God; by the Rev. Francis Martyn. 8vo. 7s. 6d.

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The Variation of Public Opinion and Feelings Considered, as it respects Religion; a Sermon, preached before the Bishop of Sarum, on his Visitation at Devizes, Aug. 15, 1817; by the Rev. G. Crabbe. 1s. 6d.

TOPOGRAPHY.

The Ruins of Gour; by W. Creighton, 4to. L.2, 2s.

Thanet and the Cinque Ports; consisting of Views of all the Churches, Castles, Vestiges of Antiquity, singular Residences, &c. in the above District, accompanied with Historical, Topographical, and Antiquarian Descriptions. The Drawings and Engravings by Wm. Deeble. Vol. I. fc. 8vo. 17s. 6d. demy 8vo. L. 1, 8s.

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A Journal of the Proceedings of the late Embassy to China; comprising an authentic narrative of the public transactions of the embassy, of the voyage to and from China, and of the journey over land from the mouth of the Pei-ho, to the return to Canton; interspersed with observations upon the face of the country, the policy, the moral character, and manners of the Chinese nation; by Henry Ellis, Esq. Secretary of Embassy, and third commissioner. 4to. L.2, 2s.

Sketches of India; or Observations descriptive of the Scenery, &c. in Bengal; written in India in the Years 1811, 12, 13, 14. 8vo. 8s.

EDINBURGH.

The Philosophy of Arithmetic; exhibiting a Progressive View of the Theory and Practice of Calculation. With an Enlarged Table of the Products of Numbers under one hundred. By John Leslie, F.R.S.E. Professor of Mathematics in the University of Edinburgh. 8vo. 8s. boards.

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Edinburgh Medical and Surgical Journal, No. 52. 3s.

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NEW FRENCH PUBLICATIONS.

Foreign Works recently imported by David Brown, South St Andrews Street.

DELAMBRE, Histoire de l'Astronomie Ancienne, 2 vols. 4to. L. 3, 12s.

Biot, Precis Elementaire de Physique experimentale, 2 vols. 8vo. L. 1, 8s.

Dubuat, Principes de Hydraulique et Pyrodynamique, 3 vols. new edition, improved and enlarged, with the addition of a third volume. L. 1, 10s.

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Sabbatier des Banques et leur influence pour faciliter la circulation des capitaux. 8vo. 4s. 6d.

Correspondence Politique et Militaire de Henri le Grand avec J. Roussat. Portraits. 7s.

Memoires de la Societé Royale des Antiquaires de France, Vol. I. 12s.

Riccati, Tableau Historique des Evenemens de 1815 et 1816. 3 vols. 8vo. L. 1, 4s.

Scheffer, Essai sur la Politique de la Nation Anglaise. 8vo. 3s. 6d.

MONTHLY REGISTER.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

EUROPE.

FRANCE.

THE French Legislative Assembly was opened by a speech from the King on the 5th November. His Majesty, alluding to the demands of compensation, lately urged against France by the commissioners of the allied powers, states, that he has commenced a negociation with the view of obtaining more moderate and equitable conditions; as, in the present state of France, it is quite impossible to comply with the demands which have been made upon her. The King seems to look forward to the period as not far distant, when foreign troops will be no longer required for maintaining the tranquillity of the country, and the stability of the throne.

Jews.—In a tract lately published at Paris, by M. Bail, the following is given as a fair calculation of the number of Jews in the different quarters of the globe:

In all parts of Poland, before the partition of 1772 -	1,000,000
In Russia, including Moldavia and Wallachia - -	200,000
In all the States in which the German language is spoken	500,000
In Holland and the Netherlands - - - - -	80,000
In Sweden and Denmark -	5,000
In France - - -	50,000
In England (of which London contains 12,000) - -	50,000
In the States in which Italian is spoken - - -	200,000
In Spain and Portugal -	10,000
In the United States -	3,000
In the Mahometan States of Asia, Europe, and Africa	4,000,000
In Persia, and the rest of Asia, including China and India	500,000
Total - -	6,598,000

SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

A misunderstanding lately prevailed between the Courts of Portugal and Spain, which the interference of the greater powers has prevented from breaking out into open war. On the Spanish frontiers the movements of troops seemed to threaten an immediate invasion of Portugal; and rumour asserted, that the Court of Madrid had determined to make reprisals in Europe, for the Portuguese invasion of Monte Video. The great powers of the Continent, however, would not suffer the peace of Europe to be disturbed; and offered their mediation in such terms that it could not be refused; and conferences are appointed to be held at Paris, for the purpose of bringing about a mutual accommodation.

The Court of Madrid, to facilitate its projects against the revolted colonies, has purchased six sail of the line from Russia, which have already passed the Belt on their way to Cadiz, where they will be manned with Spanish crews, and employed in the transport of troops to America.

General Gomez Friere, and his companions, twelve in number, convicted of a design to overturn the Portuguese Government in May last, underwent their sentence of death on the 18th October at Lisbon, and their bodies, after hanging, were burned to ashes. Baron Eben had his sentence of death changed to perpetual banishment, on the intercession, it is said, of an illustrious person in England.

GERMANY.

It is stated from Prussia, that the Council of Finance has recommended a commercial system, having for its basis the exclusion of all severe import or transit duties, and the introduction of such moderate ones, as, by attracting the foreign merchants, and not oppressing the consumer, will promote the financial prosperity of the state.

Sweden is suffering grievously under the late restrictions imposed upon her commerce. Some of the principal banks in the kingdom have suspended their payments, and the mercantile community is, in consequence, agitated with distrust and alarm.

ASIA.

EAST INDIES.

About the end of last month, the arrival of intelligence from India, stating that war had broken out in the dominions of the Peshwa, caused a considerable sensation, and fears were entertained of a general and protracted contest with the whole of the Mahratta powers. The frequent incursions of the Pindarees had given rise

to a suspicion that they were set on by these powers, who but waited a favourable opportunity to shew their hostility to the British authority. The Resident at Poonah, therefore, (the Hon. Mr Elphinstone,) as soon as the war did break out, seized the person of the Peshwa, and committed him to safe custody; and it appears, from subsequent arrivals, that, in consequence of this prompt measure of the Resident, and the imposing state of our whole military force in India, under the Marquis of Hastings, all apprehensions of an immediate war had completely vanished. These accounts are to the date of the 11th June. The Peshwa had delivered up three of his chief forts, as securities for his peaceable conduct; and a reward had been offered for Trimbukjee, the leader of the Mahrattas, in his dominions. Scindia and Holkar, so far from taking part in the war, have given the Marquis of Hastings assurances of support in crushing the Pindarees. Money could be obtained in India at six per cent., and the bills of the Company were at a premium.

CHINA.

There is an article in the Dutch papers, dated from Petersburgh, which states, that the Emperor of China has expressed a wish to have ambassadors at his Court from foreign powers, on the same footing as the powers of Europe. This would rather be a novelty in the policy of China; and it is scarcely to be believed that a determination of this nature on the part of the sovereign, which implies a revolution in all the favourite notions of this singular people, could have been adopted so suddenly and unexpectedly; at any rate, the punctilios necessary to be observed by the European powers would be a bar to any close intercourse.

AFRICA.

REVOLUTION AT ALGIERS.

By a sudden explosion of military violence, the Dey of Algiers, on the 3d October last, lost both his authority and his life. From the details which have been published of this event, it appears, that for more than a month before, symptoms of discontent and insubordination had been observed to prevail among the troops, of which due warning was given to Omar Pacha, the Dey; but he refused to listen to such ungrateful intelligence. Early on the morning of the 3d, however, he was roused from his security by a tumultuous assemblage of about 600 Turkish soldiers, who proceeded to the palace where the Dey was sitting in council with his ministers, and overpowering the palace guard, some of the most furious rushed into the council-room. The Dey endeavoured, but in vain, to appease their fury. He then drew his sword to defend himself, but being overpowered by numbers, he was dragged out into the court-yard and strangled. In the mean time, another body of soldiers had been detached to the city, where they proclaimed Ali Hodja as new Dey, and returned with him in triumph to the palace of the Regency, which he entered a few minutes after the murder of the unfortunate Omar Pacha.

The unpopularity of Omar Pacha, it would appear, arose from his strict adherence to the treaty made with Lord Exmouth; and his successor will no doubt find it a difficult matter, both to preserve the favour of the barbarians, and to prevent the infraction of that treaty, which stipulated for the abolition of Christian slavery. But the present Dey, according to some accounts, will soon have a new and formidable enemy to contend against. It is said that Mahomet Ali, the Viceroy of Egypt, whose military talents are considerable, has formed the design of erecting his province into a State independent of Turkey; and likewise to root out the present governments of Tunis, Algiers, and Tripoli, and concentrate the whole under his own authority. It is added, that he is seeking the countenance of the Courts of Britain, Russia, and Sweden, in this enterprise.

The plague, which had raged with such virulence at Algiers, that it numbered from 150 to 200 victims per day, had not, by the last accounts, extended to Morocco, a visitation which it probably escaped only by the intervention of the great desert that separates the two countries, and which, in a great measure, cuts off their communication with each other.

THE ASHANTEES.

By recent advices, it appears that the mission, which had some months ago been dispatched from Cape Coast Castle to Cormasie, the capital of the kingdom of Ashantee, had completely succeeded; and that it had met with a most gracious reception from the king. At first the king manifested great coldness and reserve, which is attributed to the endeavour of General Daendels, to excite a feeling hostile to the English; but mutual explanations having removed this unfavourable impression from his majesty's mind, every opportunity, it is alleged, was sought of complimenting the gentlemen composing the mission, with the highest proofs of regard and distinction. The splendour, the order, the variety, and extent of the king's retinue, his subject chieftains, officers, and attendants, had as much exceeded the expectations of the English, as did the decorum and benignity of his manners, and those of his family and courtiers who surrounded him. The po-

pulation of Cormasie is estimated at 200,000 souls.

EGYPT.

A letter from Cairo, dated February 1, 1816, gives the following particulars concerning this country:

No people under the sun possess such a capacity for learning foreign languages, and speaking them fluently, as the Egyptians. The Italian is generally spoken by them, and also the French, since the visit of Bonaparte. When foreign vessels are descried from Rosetta or Alexandria, native interpreters and dealers immediately go off to them to make contracts for provisions, &c. A Swedish ship, the first that has been seen at Alexandria for sixteen years, lately arrived at that port. An old Egyptian, with hoary beard, went on board and offered his services in such pure Swedish, that the captain took him for a Swede in disguise.

Since the invasion of the French, several commercial houses from Europe, and, some years since, the great house of Fegtig from Austria, have established themselves at Cairo, where they are doing business. Since the Pacha of Cairo, together with the Arab chiefs, who exercise sovereign sway in their respective districts, has pretty well restored the public tranquillity, and the Egyptians are now not much oppressed with taxes, which so easily excite these people to insurrection, trade and commerce are tolerably brisk.

The notion current in Europe, that there are numerous studs of horses in the deserts of Arabia, is erroneous. A breeder seldom possesses more than 30, or at most 40 head, which he values very highly, and of which he keeps an exact pedigree. The late wars and disturbances have exceedingly raised the prices of these animals; so that entire horses of the best breeds now cost on the spot from 8000 to 10,000 piastres each. Count Huniady, of Hungary, has lately obtained two of these rare creatures, purchased near Aleppo, through the agency of the house of Fegtig, which is at this moment preparing to ship off eleven more, chiefly mares, for Trieste.

AMERICA.

UNITED STATES.

Navigation Act.—The following notification appears in the Halifax Chronicle of the 11th September, quoted from the Independent Chronicle of the 4th:—

"We are authorized to state, that the collector of the customs for this district has been directed to put the following construction, for the present, on the navigation act of March 1817:—

"Vessels owned in Great Britain may bring into the United States, from the British West India Islands, or any other of her colonies, cargoes consisting of articles the growth, production, or manufacture of said colonies. Vessels arrived in any British colony can take a cargo from another British colony, and bring into the United States. Great Britain and Sweden are the only nations which have a similar regulation to that contained in the navigation act of the United States, and of course they are the only nations which are affected by it."

A very late Philadelphia paper contains the following account of emigrants arrived in that port, from the 31st of August 1816, to the 31st of August 1817:—

From England, Ireland, and Scotland - - -	2018
Holland - - -	2190
France - - -	128
Hamburgh and Bremen -	60
Total	4396

Letters received from Charleston, dated the 16th September, bring the distressing intelligence that the fever, for some time prevalent there, instead of abating, had increased, and that the deaths averaged about a hundred weekly.

The Indians have agreed to cede to the United States, for the use of Georgia, the tract of land lying between Oakmugee River, and the line run under General Jackson's treaty.

The American ship Galen, Captain Tracey, lately made her passage from Boston to the Land's End in fourteen days, and to the London Docks in twenty-three days; and a Liverpool vessel lately went a voyage to Savannah in America, took in a cargo, and returned to Liverpool in sixty-nine days.

BRITISH AMERICA.

Church at Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.—The corner-stone of a church, to be erected by subscription, by the inhabitants of Dartmouth and Halifax, aided by a donation from Sir John C. Sherbrooke, was lately laid by his Excellency the Earl of Dalhousie, who has also been a liberal subscriber to the undertaking, in the presence and under the auspices of the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Nova Scotia, Rear Admiral Sir David Milne, K. C. B. the Hon. Commissioner Wodehouse, the Rev. Dr Inglis, and many other respectable parishioners.

PORTUGUESE AMERICA.

By accounts from the Brazils to the middle of August, we learn that the Brazilian Government had sent off orders for the evacuation of Monte Video by the Portuguese troops. By a decree of the 25th of June, the following official appointments

at the Court of Rio Janeiro had been notified:

President of the Royal Treasury, Joao Paulo Bezerra.

Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and War, the Count de Palmella.

Minister and Secretary of State for the Marine and Transmarine dominion, the Count dos Arcos.

Minister and Secretary of State of the Affairs of the Kingdom and House of Braganza, the Judge Thomas Antonio de Villa.

Nova Portugal, Counsellor of State, the Count de Vunchal.

SPANISH AMERICA.

Throughout the vast colonies of Spain in North and South America, the civil war continues to rage with murderous activity; and till it be determined whether these provinces are to be independent, or to sink again under the hated yoke of the mother country, they must continue to be the scene of desolation and misery. At present affairs seem to promise well for the independence of the South Americans. The inhabitants of Margaretta, by their determined resistance, compelled the royalist General Morillo to evacuate the island, which he had invaded with an army of 3000 men, and a large fleet. The retreat of Morillo was, however, materially influenced by a diversion on the main land, by Marino, the patriot leader in Venezuela. When the Spaniards landed in Margaretta, Morillo put to the sword all that fell into his hands; neither age nor sex were spared; and the inhabitants, who could anticipate nothing from his success but a general extermination, resisted all his efforts, with a bravery bordering on desperation, and succeeded in expelling him from their territory on the 17th August. Four of his ships were afterwards taken by the patriot Admiral Brion. When Morillo fled from Margaretta, he cut the throats, it is said, of all the Creoles who were with him, even those whom he had compelled to fight in his ranks. The independent troops, of course, retaliate these bloody proceedings, and hence the passions of both parties are wound up to the highest pitch of hatred and revenge.

General Macgregor has left the command at Amelia Island; but there seems to be no intention, on the part of the Independents, of relinquishing this station; as he has been succeeded by a Colonel Irvine, who repulsed two attacks made by the Spaniards on the 12th and 13th September, and on the 21st hoisted the Mexican flag, and proclaimed the independence of the island.

BRITISH CHRONICLE.

OCTOBER.

13.—*Large Snake.*—There has been, for some time past, a snake of enormous magnitude secreted in a pond at a short distance from the Priory, a house occupied by Mr Thomson, at Frognell, between Hampstead and West End. The servants of Mr Thomson have frequently seen it, and describe it to be of the thickness of a man's arm, and of a proportionate length. Attempts have been made to shoot it, but in vain. Its motions are uncommonly rapid, and on the least alarm it dives to the bottom of the pond. It seems perfectly harmless in its nature, and hitherto has done no mischief. Frogs and toads, it is supposed, form the principal source of its sustenance.

15.—*Ireland.—Daring Robbery.*—On Sunday evening, the Rev. Archdeacon Collis, with his son, Captain Collis, were sitting in a parlour of their house, in the vicinity of Cork, when a man entered, whose appearance justified the well-founded suspicion of those gentlemen that their visitor came with no good object in view. Captain Collis immediately seized the poker, and a struggle ensued between him and the robber, which was interrupted by the entrance of four or five others, who said it was useless to resist them, which was evident from their number and appearance. They had succeeded beforehand in securing the servants outside. The depredators then surveyed the room, in which was some plate and other articles; but these they did not touch, saying, they would be content with some money, and whatever arms were in the house; and with these demands the Archdeacon and his son, situated as we have described, were obliged to comply. One of the robbers has since been apprehended.

New Viceroy.—The Earl and Countess of Talbot arrived under a suitable escort at Dublin, on Thursday the 9th inst. and the Privy Council being in attendance, his Lordship was immediately sworn into office, and afterwards proceeded to the Viceregal Lodge, Phœnix Park, where a grand dinner was given by Lord Whitworth. On Friday the Duchess of Dorset and Earl

Whitworth embarked at Dublin for England. They sailed from the Pigeon-House in the evening, but the wind being contrary, they were obliged to put back, and landed next morning. His Lordship finding the weather not likely to become favourable, took the road to Donaghadee, from whence he embarked for Portpatrick.

Translations of the Bible.—Several copies of the different parts of the Scriptures, in the Hindostanee, Sanscrit, Bengalee, Mahratta, Orissa, and Chinese languages, a copy of Colloquies in Bengalee, and a few of the circular letters which are printed and circulated in India, have been presented by the Rev. Dr Ryland of Bristol, Secretary to the Baptist Missionary Society, to the library belonging to the students in divinity, under the Rev. Dr Lawson, Selkirk. A very elegant copy of the Arabic Bible has also been presented to the same library by the Rev. Thomas Brown, Dalkeith.

The members of the coal trade of the rivers Tyne and Wear have presented a superb service of plate, as a tribute of gratitude, to Sir Humphrey Davy, for his invaluable discovery of the safety lamp.

18.—*Herring Fishery.*—The herring fishing, this season, upon the west coast, is not so favourable as has been represented. Letters from Rothesay mention, that the busses upon an average fall short of half a cargo, after being now above three months on the fishing ground. Herrings, upon the coast, bring, in a fresh state, from 16s. to 21s. per crane.

Singular and sudden rise to Affluence.—A young gentleman, son of a respectable farmer, near Newmarket, has just become possessed of an immense fortune, in the following extraordinary manner: An elderly gentleman, at Shrewsbury, where the young man had been some years at school, had taken a fancy to him, and being without heirs, determined to leave him his property. The gentleman being taken extremely ill within these few weeks, sent for the youth, and caused a free gift of his immense wealth to be legally made out, only stipulating, that in case he survived, the youth should handsomely provide for him during the continuance of his life. He, however, died a short time after he had signed the deed, in which it has been discovered that he possessed more than L. 500,000 sterling. Since the event, the youth's filial and fraternal affection has been most honourably evinced, by his having voluntarily given L. 50,000 each to his father and elder brother.

20.—*Newcastle.*—In the quarter ending 10th October 1816, 97 ships with cargoes from foreign countries were reported inwards at Newcastle; and in the corresponding quarter of the present year, 189; being an increase of 92 ships in the last quarter; a most gratifying proof of the revival of trade.

The proprietors of the Newcastle gas works have already made such progress, that the main pipes are now actually laying down through the principal streets, so that a great part of the town will be lighted this winter.

Another whale.—On Thursday morning last, an immense whale was found at sea, by the fishermen of North Sunderland, which, after great exertion, they succeeded in towing on shore at the pier of that place. Crowds of people have been viewing this stranger on the coast of Northumberland.

24.—*The Army—Half-pay Officers.*—By a circular from the war-office of this date, officers drawing half-pay are required to make affidavit in the following form, by which the officers who have embarked in the cause of the South Americans will be rendered unable to draw their half-pay:

" appeared personally before me, and made oath that he had not, during any part of the period from 25th of 181 , to 24th of 181 , both days inclusive, any other place, or employment of profit, civil or military, under his Britannic Majesty, or in the service of any other Government, besides the allowance granted to him by his Britannic Majesty, as a reduced of the regiment of

Sworn before me at this day of "

Shocking death of a poor Sweep Boy.—Last night an inquisition was held at the Lord Somers' Arms, Grenville Street, Somers' Town, before Thomas Stirling, Esq. Coroner, on the body of Thomas Dowland, a poor little orphan sweep, aged eleven years, apprentice to Hall, a nightman and chimney sweep residing at St Pancras, whose death was caused by suffocation in the flue of the chimney. It appeared from the evidence that he was sent up the flue of an oven; and that he was upwards of an hour in the flue, which was opened, and the deceased taken out thickly covered with soot. He was then carried into the garden for air, and a surgeon was sent for, who came and rubbed him over with some sort of spirits, but the deceased never spoke nor moved after. When the deceased was first brought down the funnel, his master said he ought to have a good thrashing for stopping so long. The jury returned the following verdict: "Died from suffocation, through the culpable neglect of his master." The foreman of the jury requested that the coroner would certify to the parish officers, that it was the opinion of the jury that they ought to prosecute Hall, the master. The coroner observed, that their request would be attended to.

Northern Meeting.—The Northern

Meeting commenced at Inverness on Wednesday the 15th. It was numerously and respectably attended by all the beauty, rank, and fashion of the country, and was kept up with that harmony and spirit which has always distinguished it.

Forest Timber.—A stronger inducement for planting cannot be offered to the attention of any individual, who is in possession of a large tract of waste land, and who looks forward with anxiety to increase his paternal estate, than the following fact:—A fir tree, of the larch species, was lately cut down at Blair, which measured 247 solid feet, which, at the present reduced price of timber, 2s. 6d. per foot, is worth L. 30, 17s. 6d.

Effects of Drought.—In Badenoch, several considerable streams, tributary to the Spey and Dulnan, became so shallow during the dry weather in September, as to allow taking from them many baskets of fish, caught by the hand. Some of these fish were of a large size, and the oldest person in the country has no recollection of a similar occurrence.

27.—*Revenue.—Sinking Fund.*—The Gazette of Saturday night contains a certification from the commissioners of the sinking fund, that up to the 4th of last July they had redeemed of the consolidated debt of Great Britain L. 348,185,141, 1s. 1d. yielding a yearly interest of the sum of L. 10,526,428, 5s. 1¾d. being an excess of L. 25,527,845, 4s. 4¼d. over the total of the funded debt of Great Britain, created by sundry acts prior to and including 36th Geo. III. c. 74. The amount of Irish debt redeemed is certified to be L. 9,249,840, 19s. being an excess of L. 2,278,684, 5s. 3d. over the total of the Irish debt prior to and created by the two acts of Geo. III. c. 4. and 50.

From the accounts that have been printed by order of the House of Commons, it appears that the gross produce of the revenue of Great Britain for twenty years, (from the 5th of January 1797, to the 5th of January 1817,) amounted to the enormous sum of twelve hundred and ninety-two millions, one hundred and eighty thousand, five hundred and ninety-two pounds, five shillings and three halfpence sterling.

An old Goose.—Mr Meeds, of Mavis Enderby, in Lincolnshire, had a goose died a few days ago, which had been the property of the family for fifty-four years.

Melancholy Shipwreck.—A most distressing occurrence took place on the coast near Cardiff, on Thursday night the 23d. The packet William and Mary, with 60 passengers, from Bristol to Waterford, struck upon the Wolves Rock, about two leagues from Cardiff, and 36 of those on board, among whom were all the women, 22 in number, perished. The mate and a few others escaped in the boat; and some of the passengers were picked up by boats from the shore. The master, who remained by the vessel, went down with her. A Mr Shortis, a passenger, saved himself by superior swimming, and was picked up after being two hours and a half in the water, during which he beheld the heart-rending scene of his fellow passengers dropping into eternity around him.

28.—Robert Reid, chimney sweeper, who was convicted of being concerned with Joseph Rae in maltreating Rae's apprentice, so as to occasion his death, and was sentenced to be transported for seven years, has received a commutation of his sentence to one year's imprisonment in the tolbooth, from the 8th of September.

30.—*Roman Catholics.*—A society has been formed in Glasgow for the instruction of Roman Catholics, particularly children, in the arts of reading and writing. A meeting was lately held in the large hall of the Black Bull Inn, at which there was a very respectable attendance of both Catholics and Protestants. Kirkman Finlay, Esq. M. P. having been called to the chair, the rules and regulations of the society were presented by Lieutenant Gordon of the royal navy, and unanimously adopted. The society is to be under the management of a committee, of which one half to be Catholics and the other Protestants.

Small-Pox.—In Glasgow and suburbs the small-pox have made their appearance, and at Pollokshaws reinoculation with vaccine matter has been, in some instances, deemed necessary.

Singular Elopement.—Complaint was made to the Lord Mayor, last week, against a gentleman of large fortune, (Mr Holyoake, banker, of Wolverhampton,) aged 50, for having seduced from her friend (a Mr Brown, of Fleet Market) a young lady, aged 18, daughter of Mr Jackson, of Wolverhampton. It appeared that the mother of the girl was heart-broken, and the father almost frantic at the loss of their daughter; and the Lord Mayor recommended that a habeas should be served on the seducer. On Wednesday, Mr Jackson waited upon the Lord Mayor at the Mansion House, to return him thanks for his humane and effectual exertions in the unhappy case of his daughter. She had, he said, returned to her parents within the last few days spontaneously, and was now comfortable in the society of her mother and sisters.

31.—*Leith Wet-Docks.*—The second new wet-dock at Leith has just been finished; and being of equal capacity to the first, will add much to the accommodation of the shipping of the port. A very elegant swivel bridge is placed over the entrance from the first to the second dock, and in place of flood-gates, a vessel constructed to fit the gate-way is sunk or raised at pleasure. The new dock was opened for pub-

lic business yesterday afternoon, and was entered by the Tug steam-boat towing in the London smack Eagle; on board which vessel were the Right Hon. the Lord Provost and Magistrates of Edinburgh, the Magistrates of Leith, accompanied by the Right Hon. William Dundas, M. P. Colonel Crichton, and several other gentlemen. The vessels entered in grand style, amidst the plaudits of a numerous assemblage. It is gratifying to think that the improving state of the trade of Leith affords the prospect of this dock being immediately in full employment. It is stated that more substantial trade has passed through the books of the Custom-house during the last quarter than for many years past in an equal period.

NOVEMBER.

1.—*Edinburgh.*—The Gas Light Company have had men busily employed for some days in laying pipes for lighting the principal streets of the city. The pipes are of different calibre, from 3 to 6 inches in diameter inside.

The remaining areas for building the east end of the Regent's Bridge have been disposed of by private bargain for L.10,000, which, with L. 25,000 received for those formerly sold, make the immense sum of L. 35,000 for the whole areas.

Executions in Scotland.—It is a remarkable circumstance, and certainly matter of deep regret, that in the month of October 1817, it should have been found necessary to execute eleven persons in Scotland. On the 10th, Bernard and Hugh Macilvogue, and Patrick Macristal, were executed at Greenock for the crimes of stouthrief, rape, and robbery. On the 17th, William Robertson and Joseph Cairns, for robbery and theft, aggravated by assault and housebreaking, and Margaret Crossan, for wilful and malicious fire-raising, suffered the same sentence at Ayr. On the 29th, William Mackechnie, and John Macormick, for shopbreaking, and Freebairn Whitehill, for robbing a carrier, were hanged in Glasgow. And on the 31st, G. Wylie and M. Clark, for housebreaking and theft, suffered death at Perth. Most of these wretched convicts were under 30 years of age, and all of them behaved with becoming penitence for their crimes, and resignation to their punishment.

3.—*Deaf and Dumb, &c.*—We feel great pleasure in observing, that those unfortunate people, the deaf, dumb, and blind, are now no longer to be left in that helpless and melancholy state, in which they have too long been allowed to remain, nor to be deprived of that most important and essential object to rational creatures, a knowledge of religion, and instruction in various branches of education. Benevolent institutions are now to be attempted at Glasgow, Paisley, Aberdeen, and Inverness, for the benefit of this benighted class of society; and certainly so laudable an undertaking cannot fail to interest the public at large, and to receive that patronage and support it so fully merits, and is in every point of view calculated to attract.

Wellington Monument.—Monday, the 27th ult. the ceremony took place of laying the foundation of the monument to be erected on Blackdown Hill, Somerset, in honour of the Duke of Wellington.

Royal visit to Bath.—Some time since the Queen was advised by her physicians to drink the Bath waters, not on account of any decline of her Majesty's general health, but because the doctors thought the general tonic quality of the waters might be useful to her. Accordingly this day, her Majesty, accompanied by the Princess Elizabeth, left Windsor, and arrived safely at five in the evening, at the spacious and elegant apartments in Sidney Place, which had been previously prepared for their reception. The town was illuminated brilliantly for the occasion, all the bells were set a ringing, and these illustrious personages were greeted with one enthusiastic acclamation from the numerous persons assembled to welcome their arrival.

4.—*Scottish Burgh Reform.*—At page 280 of our last number, we noticed the successful application of the inhabitants of Montrose to the royal authority, for a more liberal system of burgh government than they had hitherto enjoyed; and at page 282, the movements which had taken place in Paisley, Dundee, and Perth, on the same subject. From the intelligence we have subsequently received, both through private communications and notices in the public papers, it appears that this question is likely to become one of general interest throughout Scotland. According to the present system of burgh government in Scotland, the great body of the inhabitants appear to have no voice in the management of burgh affairs. The old councils generally elect the new, and these two bodies thereafter chuse the office-bearers or magistrates. These self-elected governors are responsible to no higher authority whatever for their intromissions with or management of the burgh funds; and the evil consequence of this want of control, on the part of the inhabitants at large, has recently been exemplified in the avowed bankruptcy of the burghs of Aberdeen and Dumfries. The reformation desired, therefore, is of a specific and acknowledged evil; and if, as has been asserted, the properties of individual burgesses are liable for the public debts of the burgh, the voice which they desire to exercise in the election of their magistrates cannot surely be conceived unreasonable. The remedy required is quite partial in its

operation,—it does not touch the main parts of the constitution, and even to the most timid, therefore, it cannot occasion any alarm.

Having premised thus much, we shall now revert shortly to the Montrose poll-election, and then proceed to notice what has come to our knowledge respecting the proceedings in other places.

Montrose.—Agreeably to the royal warrant, the inhabitants met in the parish church, on the 13th of October, in presence of the Sheriffs of Forfar, Kincardine, and Perth shires, as commissioners under the Royal authority. The election then commenced, and did not finish till Thursday the 16th, when Charles Barclay, Esq. was declared provost; James Clark, George Shepherd, and William Caird, Esquires, bailies; Alexander Smart, Esq. hospital master; William Anderson, Esq. treasurer, and James Burnes, Esq. dean of guild. The sheriffs then congratulated the magistrates and citizens on the order and decorum which had been preserved during the election, and on their having now got a constitution of a most liberal and popular kind; the sheriff of Perthshire remarking, that although three centuries ago it had been found necessary to repress popular elections by a restrictive enactment, he hoped that in the long space which had intervened, this country had advanced so far, as to make it now quite safe to trust it with a more extended franchise. The event was next day celebrated by a public dinner in the town hall, where the greatest order and harmony prevailed.

Edinburgh.—At a meeting of the Merchant Company of this city, on the 20th ult. the important subject of burgh reform was brought under its consideration; and several resolutions were proposed, preparatory to a general discussion of the subject on that day month, which were passed without opposition. Since that period a number of the incorporations have met, and passed resolutions expressive of their determination to adopt every legal measure to accomplish the wished for object, and appointing committees to correspond with other public bodies on the subject. In one of the incorporations, however, that of the cordiners, the general motion was met by an amendment to defer the consideration of the question for one month, which was carried by a division of 15 against 10, the deacon voting in the minority. Besides the general objection to the self-election of the Edinburgh municipal governors, the trades complain of a degrading control exercised by the magistrates over them in the election of their deacons. Preparatory to the election, a list containing six names is sent to the magistrates, who claim the right of striking off three from the number, and from the names remaining on the list, the incorporation then chuses its deacon. And as the deacon is ex officio preses of the incorporation, the surgeons particularly complain of this control; as, however, they may find one of their number qualified by his learning to preside at their meetings, they cannot call such a person to office, unless he is perfectly agreeable in every respect to the magistrates of the city.

Musselburgh.—On the 29th ult, a meeting of the feuars and burgesses of Musselburgh was held, pursuant to advertisement, for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of applying to the Prince Regent for a new set for that burgh. Bailie Young having been called to the chair, a committee from the council, incorporations, and principal inhabitants, was chosen to draw up a new set for the burgh, and to lay the same before another general meeting of the burgesses for their approbation. The thanks of the meeting were unanimously voted to the magistrates for calling the burgesses together, and for the liberal and handsome manner with which they entered into the measure. The meeting, we understand, was numerous and respectable.

Glasgow.—The liberality displayed by the Lord Advocate, on the subject of burgh reform, is likely to make it popular in every part of Scotland. We understand that in this city some efforts will shortly be made for a change in the set of the burgh; and it is expected that the proceedings will commence with the Trades' House, a respectable body, (composed of the heads of the fourteen incorporations,) who have not even the choice of their own convener.—*Glasgow Chronicle.*

Ayr.—On the evening of the 4th instant, a numerous meeting of the burgesses of this town met in the King's Arms, and chose a committee of fifteen, including the present convener and a number of the deacons of the corporations, to consider of the most proper method of bringing about a free representation of the burgh, and to frame resolutions for that purpose, to be laid before a subsequent meeting.

Dumfries.—(Extract of a Letter.)—The town-council met this day (27th October) to deliberate what measures should be pursued in the present embarrassed state of the burgh's finances, seeing that the trust-deed executed by the council had been rejected by several considerable creditors, particularly two friendly societies. In the course of the discussion, Bailie Rankine observed, that it was vain for the council to expect the confidence of their creditors under the present system of burgh government; that nothing less than a reformed set of the burgh would satisfy the creditors, that prudence and economy would be introduced into the management of

the funds; that a change of the set was the unanimous wish of the inhabitants; it was called for by the lessons of dear-bought experience, by the necessities of the burgh, and by the dictates of obvious reason, to which every feature of the existing system was repugnant. It was his intention to propose to the council, at their next meeting, such a change in the set as would destroy the principle of self-election, and subject the council to proper responsibility. He did not mean to take the members of council by surprise; on the contrary, he entreated them to give the subject their most serious consideration; and when the motion was made, to vote for or against it as their conscience should direct. What will be the fate of Bailie Rankine's motion I know not, but it augurs well for the success of it, that several of the leading gentlemen of the council have declared it to be in their contemplation to propose an alteration in the set. If, however, the motion should fail, the inhabitants can be at no loss how to act and decide. At this crisis they have a commanding strength, which before they never possessed; they have before them the memorable examples of Montrose, Aberdeen, and Dundee, and they have more impregnable grounds to proceed upon than the inhabitants of any of these burghs.

Dundee.—The Town Council met on the 13th October, when Provost Riddoch, after making a long address in vindication of his conduct, concluded with the following motion:—"That the Council shall call a meeting of the burgesses of Dundee, resident within the royalty, or actually carrying on trade there, though resident in the suburbs, to be held in the Steeple Church, on Wednesday, the 29th current, at eleven o'clock forenoon, for appointing a committee of their number to meet with a committee of the Council, for the purpose of framing a New Set, or Constitution for Dundee, similar to the one lately given to Montrose; to be afterwards submitted to the Council and Burgesses for their approbation; and when approved of, that a petition by the Council, and all parties concerned, shall be forthwith presented to the King in Council, praying his Majesty to sanction and confirm the alterations so agreed upon." This motion was carried unanimously, and the whole of the Council signed the minutes. Deacon Ivory moved a vote of thanks to Provost Riddoch, which was seconded by Deacon Mudie, and carried unanimously. The meeting accordingly took place on the 29th, and the business proceeded in an amicable manner. The petition is, therefore, in progress, in the hope of a favourable result.

Inverness.—Pursuant to advertisement, a numerous and respectable meeting of Guild-brethren of this burgh took place in Geddes's hotel, on Saturday, the 25th October, when a committee was appointed to present to the Provost a petition formerly agreed on for recovery of their rights. The petition was afterwards delivered by them to the Provost, who received the deputation with great politeness, and stated that he would lay the petition before the Town Council.

Forres.—The burgesses and guildry of Forres resolved to enter a protest against the legality of the late election of Magistrates of that burgh, at the last Michaelmas Head Court; but the Magistrates refused to admit them into court. They have, therefore, protested against this exclusion, and have appointed a committee of burgesses to take proper measures for obtaining redress.

Singular Attachment.—A watchman, whose duty lies in the New Town of Edinburgh, about a week after his appointment to his present district, was visited by two tabby cats, which very soon became familiarized with him to a surprising degree.—Since their first appearance, about two years ago, they have never, even for a single evening, absented themselves. As regularly as he goes to his post, whatever may be the state of the weather, he finds his two friends anxiously expecting him. During the remainder of the night they never leave him for a moment. They follow him in his round, and whenever he makes a halt, they lie quietly down at his feet. As a remarkable proof of their sagacity, which is not generally considered a predominant quality in these animals, the following circumstance may be mentioned: For a month past, the watchman had been off duty in consequence of bad health. During his absence, they formed a slight acquaintance with his temporary successor, but this had no appearance of ripening into cordiality. On their old friend's return to his post on Friday se'ennight, they immediately recognized him, manifested their joy in every possible manner, and commenced their usual nightly routine of business with him.

5. Grand Triumphal Arch.—The commissioners, it is said, have come to a determination to erect a grand monument to commemorate our victories by land and sea. The spot selected is at the bottom of St James's Street, London, where the Court-yard now stands. The arch is to be of the most magnificent proportions, and the model to be taken from that of Constantine.

Roger O'Connor, Esq.—On Friday, the 3d instant, Daniel Waring was brought to trial at the Commission Court, Dublin, charged with perjury in his evidence on the late trial of Roger O'Connor, Esq. at Trim. The prisoner, after a long trial, was pronounced by the jury Not Guilty; but was

detained in custody, arrangements having been made to send him and Owen, the other informer, out of the country. Mr O'Connor underwent a long cross-examination, principally respecting his religious belief, in the course of which he avowed his disbelief in divine revelation, saying, he believed our Saviour was the dupe of his own imagination. The judge told the jury, that although he would not say Mr O'Connor's testimony was altogether to be discredited, yet, after the avowal he had made, he left it with themselves to give what credit to his evidence they thought proper. The consequence was the acquittal of the prisoner.

Liverpool.—It is affirmed that there are more new houses building at this time in Liverpool, than at any one period since the establishment of the port.

Accidents in Coal-mines.—The following fatal accident is another example of the folly and danger of using candles in place of safety-lamps in coal-mines: The week before last the workmen in the coal-pit in the Newton Green, Ayr, went to work with candles, when the flame of the candle of one of the men, who was working apart from the rest, came in contact with inflammable gas, and by the explosion, the man last mentioned was killed on the spot. Another man, who was working in another part of the pit, on hearing the explosion, instantly ran to the place from whence it proceeded to assist his fellow-workman, or to see if his two sons, who were at work near the spot, were safe; and he also was suffocated to death. The two sons, however, and the other workmen in the pit, escaped unhurt. We are informed, that this coal-work is amply provided with safety-lamps, and that the circumstance of candles being used instead of lamps, proceeds principally from the workmen themselves incautiously preferring the candle-light to that emitted from the lamp.

7.—*Trials and Executions at Derby for High Treason.*—The trials of the persons accused of conspiring against the King and Government in June last, in the counties of Derby and Nottingham, took place at Derby before a Special Commission, and terminated on Saturday the 18th ult. in the conviction and sentence of four of the principal conspirators, namely, Jeremiah Brandreth, who was called the Nottingham Captain, William Turner, the second in command, Isaac Ludlam, and George Weightman. It appeared very clearly, from the testimony of the various witnesses, adduced on these trials, that a large body of the lower orders, resident in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire, had determined, however contemptible their means might appear, to attempt a revolution. For this purpose meetings had been held at Pentridge and other places, guns, pistols, and pikes procured, and Brandreth recognized as a chief. On the night of the 9th of June, (which was appointed for the general rising of the disaffected,) Brandreth, at the head of about 100 persons from the neighbourhood of Pentridge, Southwingfield, &c. armed with guns, pikes, &c. set out for Nottingham; they were to be joined by other parties on Nottingham Forest, and to proceed to Nottingham in a body. On their route they attacked various houses, demanding and taking guns, &c. and obliging the men to join them, for refusing to do which, Brandreth shot a servant of Mrs Hepworth of Southwingfield, who immediately after died of the wounds. On their nearer approach to Nottingham, George Weightman (one of the prisoners) was sent forward to that place, to see how matters went on; he returned, and with a view to cheer the party, told them that Nottingham was taken by the revolutionists, and all was going on well. The party told those whom they had forced into their ranks, that the Government did nothing but plunder them, and must be overturned; and James Barnes (another of the prisoners) said on the road, that he had seen a letter the day before, by which he learned that the keys of the Tower of London would be given up to the Hampden Club party, if they were not already. At several of the houses which they plundered, they told the inmates, that if they did not join them, they would be swept away by a cloud of revolutionists who were on their march from Yorkshire and the North. On the arrival of the party on Nottingham Forest, a small body of the military from Nottingham came up; the ringleaders then attempted to form the party in a fighting attitude, but they threw down their arms and fled; many escaped, some were taken by the cavalry, and others were afterwards apprehended by the civil power.

At the conclusion of these trials, the agents for the other prisoners proposed to the crown solicitor to withdraw their plea of not guilty, and throw themselves on the mercy of the crown. This they accordingly did, and twenty of them were brought up and received sentence on Saturday, the remainder being discharged. It is expected the sentence on those who thus pleaded guilty will be changed to various terms of banishment or imprisonment, according to their degrees of guilt; Weightman has also been respited to the 14th instant, and it is thought will be banished; but the sentence of the law was this day carried into execution upon the other three. After hanging till dead, their heads were separated from their bodies with an axe, the executioner holding them up successively, and proclaiming, "This is the head of a traitor."

10.—*Lamented Death of the Princess*

Charlotte of Wales and her Infant Child.—The intelligence of this unlooked for and afflicting catastrophe reached us with the London post of yesterday, and has spread among all ranks of society one common sentiment of deep lamentation and sorrow. Such a tragical event, even in private life, cannot be contemplated without the deepest emotion: but in the present case, public considerations are blended with feelings of sympathy for individual suffering; for, by the death of this beloved, but ill-fated princess, are cut off all hopes of a direct succession to the Crown of these kingdoms. It was at nine o'clock on Wednesday evening, the 5th instant, that the Princess, after a tedious but apparently not dangerous labour, was delivered of a still-born male child, at Claremont-House, in the vicinity of London; and her situation continued to be favourable till about half-past twelve next morning, when some alarming symptoms began to appear, and at half-past two she expired in the presence of her beloved consort, Prince Leopold of Saxe Cobourg, whose attentions to her had been most assiduous and affectionate, and whose consequent affliction it is beyond the power of language to describe. Expresses were immediately dispatched to her illustrious father at Carleton-House, to the Queen at Bath, and the other branches of the Royal family, acquainting them with the irreparable loss which their house had sustained; and in London, and throughout the country, all the anxious preparations that had been made in the view of a favourable event, have now given place to general and deep felt lamentation.

A very few minutes previous to the delivery of the Princess, it was known that the infant was alive; and her Royal Highness bore the intelligence of the child being still-born with much resignation. She continued sensible to the moment of her death. About five minutes before she breathed her last, she said to the medical attendants, "Is there any danger?" They replied, by requesting her Royal Highness to compose herself. She breathed a gentle sigh, and expired.

And thus, in the enjoyment of health and beauty—at the early age of 22, was snatched away from this world this accomplished Princess. She was neither too tall nor too short, about the middle size, inclining rather to the *embonpoint*, but not so much so as to impair the symmetry of her form. Her complexion was beautifully fair—her arms delicately rounded, and her head finely placed. There was a mingled sweetness and dignity in her look, a full, intelligent eye; and when she was engaged in conversation, particularly in familiar conversation, much liveliness in the expression of her countenance.—The resemblance to her illustrious father was striking. To these accomplishments of person, her Royal Highness added the more valuable qualities of the mind and heart. She had read much, and with discrimination, particularly since her marriage. One of her most pleasing occupations was to accompany her illustrious consort in his study of the English language, in which he was so diligent, that he has been able to read our best writers upon history and jurisprudence. She was of religious habits, and a strict observer of the Sabbath, as well as her husband, who regularly read to her, after the church service, one of our best English sermons. She was a most affectionate child; and, as a wife, was a model for her sex. She looked up to her husband with the most perfect affection and respect; and he deserved it all. His influence over her was unbounded, though the exercise of it was of the gentlest kind.

Orders were issued on the 7th for the Court to go into mourning; and it was requested at same time, that all persons should put themselves into decent mourning; which will no doubt be as general as ever took place in this or any other country.

BRITISH LEGISLATION.

Acts passed in the 57th Year of the Reign of George III. or in the Fifth Session of the Fifth Parliament of the United Kingdom.

Cap. XXXV. *For punishing Mutiny and Desertion; and for the better Payment of the Army and their Quarters.*—June 20.

Number of forces, 121,035.

Cap. XXXVI. *To regulate the Trade to and from the Places within the Limits of the Charter of the East India Company, and certain Possessions of his Majesty in the Mediterranean.*—June 20.

Cap. XXXVII. *To explain and amend an Act of the Fifty-third Year of his present Majesty, relating to Tolls on Carriages used in Husbandry, and to remove Doubts as to Exemption of Carriages, not wholly laden with Manure, from Payment of Toll.*—June 20.

Not to exempt certain carriages from tolls.

Cap. XXXVIII. *To continue, until*

the 15th day of June 1818, *an Act of the 52d Year of his present Majesty, for the more effectual Preservation of the Peace, by enforcing the Duties of Watching and Warding.*—June 20.

Cap. XXXIX. *To extend certain Provisions of the Acts of the 36th and 52d Years of the Reign of his present Majesty to Matters of Charity and Friendly Societies.*—June 20.

Cap. XL. *To authorize the rewarding Officers of the Customs for their Services in preventing illicit Distillation in Scotland, under an Act passed in the last Session of Parliament.*—June 20.

Cap. XLI. *To repeal two Acts passed in the 54th and 55th Years of his present Majesty, relating to the Office of the Agent General, and for transferring the Duties of the said Office to the Offices of the Paymaster General and Secretary at War.*—June 20.

Cap. XLII. *To revive and continue, until the 25th Day of March* 1819, *an Act made in the 44th Year of his present Majesty, for permitting the Exportation of Salt from the Port of Nassau, in the Island of New Providence, the Port of Exuma, and the Port of Crooked Island in the Bahama Islands, in American Ships coming in Ballast.*—June 27.

Cap. XLIII. *For granting, for Two Years from the 5th Day of July* 1817, *Bounties on Sugar refined otherwise than by Claying.*—June 27.

Cap. XLIV. *To allow Corps of Yeomanry or Volunteer Cavalry, when assembled for the Suppression of Riots or Tumults, to be quartered and billetted, and Officers on Half Pay to hold certain Commissions in such Corps, and to exempt Members in such Corps from serving the Office of Constable.*—June 27.

Cap. XLV. *For the Continuation of all and every Person or Persons in any and every Office, Place, or Employment, Civil or Military, within the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Dominion of Wales, Town of Berwick-upon-Tweed, Isles of Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney, Sarke, and Man, and also in all and every of his Majesty's Foreign Possessions, Colonies, or Plantations, which he or she shall hold, possess, or exercise during the Pleasure of the Crown, at the time of the Death or Demise of his present Majesty, until removed or discharged therefrom by the succeeding King or Queen of this Realm.*—June 27.

Cap. XLVI. *To prevent the issuing and circulating of Pieces of Copper or other Metal, usually called Tokens.*—June 27.

No copper tokens to be made or issued or circulated.

Every person who shall, after the said 1st of January 1818, circulate or pass, as for any nominal value in money or goods, any such token, shall for every such token so circulated or passed, whether such person shall be or have been concerned in the original issuing or circulation of any such token, or only the bearer or holder thereof for the time being, forfeit any sum not less than two shillings nor more than ten shillings, at the discretion of the justice or justices of the peace who shall hear and determine such offence.

Not to affect Bank of England tokens.—Sheffield penny tokens issued for the relief of the poor may circulate to 25th March 1823.—Birmingham penny tokens issued for the relief of the poor may circulate to 25th March 1820.

Cap. XLVII. *For settling and securing Annuities on Lord Colchester, and on the next Person to whom the Title of Lord Colchester shall descend, in consideration of his eminent services.*—June 27.

Cap. XLVIII. *To make further Provision for the Adjustment of the Accounts of the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom, and for making good any occasional Deficiency which may arise in the said Fund in Great Britain or Ireland respectively; and to direct the Application of Monies by the Commissioners for the reduction of the National Debt.*—June 27.

Cap. XLIX. *For altering and amending the Laws of Excise with respect to Salt and Rock Salt.*—June 27.

Cap. L. *To continue an Act made in the 54th Year of his present Majesty's Reign, intituled, "An Act to provide for the preserving and restoring of Peace in such Parts of Ireland as may at any Time be disturbed by seditious Persons, or by Persons entering into unlawful Combinations or Conspiracies."*—June 27.

Cap. LI. *To regulate the Celebration of Marriages in Newfoundland.*—June 27.

Cap. LII. *To alter an Act passed in the 11th Year of the Reign of King George the Second, for the more effectual securing the Payment of Rents, and preventing Frauds by Tenants.*—June 27.

The remedies by the said recited act given to lessors and landlords, in case of any tenant deserting the premises, and leaving the same uncultivated or unoccupied, so as no sufficient distress can be had to countervail the arrears of rent, shall be extended to the case of tenants holding any lands, &c. at a rack-rent, or where the rent reserved shall be full three-fourths of the yearly value of the demised premises, and who shall be in arrear for one half year's rent, (instead of for one year, as in the said recited act is provided and enacted,) and who shall hold such lands, &c. under any demise or agreement either written or verbal, and although no right or power of re-entry be reserved or given to the landlord in case of non-payment of rent.

PATENTS LATELY ENROLLED.

PHILIP HUTCHINSON CLAY, of London, gentleman, for a combination of machinery, for the purpose of repairing and improving turnpike and other roads and highways, and preserving and keeping the same in good order. May 22, 1817.

SETH HUNT, of the United States of America, now residing in Covent Garden, Middlesex, Esq., for an improved escapement for clocks and watches, and chronometers. Communicated to him by a foreigner residing abroad. May 22.

ROGER DIDOT, formerly a paper manufacturer in France, but now of Paddington, Middlesex, son of Peter Francis Didot, jun. late a celebrated printer in Paris, deceased, for certain improvements upon the machines already in use for making wove and laid paper in continued lengths or separate sheets. May 22.

GEORGE MANWARING, of Marsh Place, Lambeth, Esq., for improvements in steam-engines. May 22.

SETH HUNT, of the United States of America, now residing in Covent Garden, Middlesex, Esq., for certain combinations of improvements in machinery for making pins. Communicated to him by a foreigner residing abroad. May 23.

CHARLES WYATT, of Bedford-row, Middlesex, coppersmith, for a new method or methods of preventing any disadvantageous accumulations of heat in manufacturing and refining sugar. June 3.

BENJAMIN AGER DAY, of Birmingham, Warwickshire, for certain improvements in chimney ornaments, which said chimney ornaments are so constructed, that they may be used for fire-screens, flower or sweet jars, timepiece cases, candlesticks, toast-stands, and various other purposes. June 3.

GABRIEL TIGERE, Duke's Court, Bow Street, Middlesex, gentleman, for a process or method of manufacturing writing paper in such a manner as that it will be extremely difficult, if not impossible, afterwards to extract or discharge any writing from such paper. June 3.

JOHN PARNALL, of St Anstell, Cornwall, brazier, for a method of tinning, or covering with tin, sheets or plates of copper, brass, or zink. June 10.

THOMAS WHITTLE, of Chester, Wharfinger, and GEORGE EYTON, of the same city, gentleman, for a new or improved kiln, for the purpose of drying malt, wheat, oats, barley, peas, beans, and other substances, by means of steam, assisted by air. June 10.

THOMAS WEDLAKE, of Hornchurch, Essex, agricultural implement maker, for certain improvements on ploughs. July 5.

DAVID BREWSTER, of Edinburgh, Doctor of Laws, for a new optical instrument, called the Kaleidoscope, for exhibiting and creating beautiful forms and patterns of general use in all the ornamental arts. July 10.

SAMUEL BROWN, of Mark Lane, Commander in his Majesty's Royal Navy, for an improvement in the construction of a bridge by the formation and uniting of its component parts in a manner not hitherto practised. July 10.

WILLIAM HENRY SIMPSON, of Bickington, Devonshire, mechanic, for certain improvements in the machinery for the spinning of wool, cotton, and other fibrous substances. July 10.

RICHARD FARMER BRAIN, of Salford, Lancaster, brewer, for an improvement or apparatus calculated to obtain or generate gas in a more economical manner than heretofore from coal, or any other article, material, or substance, for lighting or heating houses, manufactories, or other places where light or heat is required. July 10.

HENRY TRITTON, of Clapham, Surrey, Esq., for an apparatus for distilling. July 15.

THOMAS ASPINWALL, Esq. of Bishopsgate Churchyard, London, for an eliptic valve-pump-box. July 16.

REUBEN PHILLIPS, of Exeter, gentleman, for a method of purifying gas for the purpose of illumination. July 19.

GEORGE WYKE, of Bath, Somersetshire, Esq. and EDWARD SHORTER, of Union Street, Borough, Surrey, mechanic, for certain improvements in the construction of wheel carriages. July 19.

PETER HAMLIN, of Albany Place, Kent New Road, Camberwell, Surrey, merchant, for an improvement or improvements in the making a cement or composition for ornaments and statues, and for making artificial bricks, or an imitation of bricks, tiles, and stones, and joining and cementing the same, and for erecting, covering, and decorating buildings, internally and externally; and also an improvement or improvements in the mixing, working, and moulding of the said cement or composition upon any sort of materials, or in working and moulding whole and entire erections and substances therewith. July 19.

FREDERICK BRUNTON, of Bride Lane, Fleet Street, London, gentleman, for a mode of employing silk or other materials in the making of hats and bonnets. July 19.

APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, &c.

I. CIVIL.

Sept. 4.—The Marischal College of Aberdeen conferred the degree of Doctor of Laws and Logic on the celebrated French philosopher, Jean Baptiste Biot; and also on Captain Thomas Colby, of the Royal Engineers.

29.—Lieutenant and Adjutant Robert Gilbert, of the Royal Marine Artillery, to wear the insignia of the Imperial Russian Order of St Wladimir, of the fourth class, conferred by the Emperor of Russia.

Oct. 10.—The honour of Knighthood conferred upon Thomas William Stubbs, Esq. Major-General in the Portuguese service.

13.—The Earl of St Vincent to wear the insignia of an Honorary Knight Grand Cross of the Portuguese Order of the Tower and Sword.

14.—Charles Manners St George, Esq. to be his Majesty's Secretary of Legation at the Court of Stockholm.

15.—The University of Glasgow conferred the degree of Doctor of Laws on the Rev. John Russell, minister of Dalserf.

20.—Admiral Sir George Campbell, K. C. B. to be a groom of his Majesty's bed-chamber, in room of Charles Herbert, Esq. deceased.

Dublin, Oct. 25.—This day, the Hon. Justice Mayne was sworn in one of the Judges of the Court of King's Bench, and Mr Serjeant Johnson one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas. The vacancy made by Mr Serjeant Johnson's elevation is filled by Mr Burton, who is now the third Serjeant.

28.—The Right Hon. the Earl of Aberdeen to be Lord Rector of the University and King's College of Aberdeen. And Patrick Milne, Esq. of Crimonmogate, M. P.; Alexander Moir, Esq. of Scotstown; Thomas Buchan, Esq. of Auchmacoy, and Robert William Duff, Esq. of Fetteresso, to be his assessors.

29.—The honour of Knighthood conferred upon Robert Gifford, Esq. his Majesty's Solicitor-General.

30.—The Rev. W. B. Smith of Edinburgh has been chosen Professor of Greek and Humanity in the Belfast Academical Institution.

—The Marischal College of Aberdeen have conferred the degree of Doctor of Laws on Mr William Knight, Professor of Natural Philosophy in the College of Belfast.

31.—Alexander Ferrier, Esq. to be British Consul for the ports of Rotterdam, Helvoet, Dordrecht, Schiedam, and the Brill.

Nov. 1.—Mr J. F. Denovan to be Consul for Hanover at Leith.

—John Stevenson, Esq. of Berwick, is appointed Collector of Customs of that port, vice James Clunie, Esq. deceased.

Chief Magistrates of Scottish Burghs, &c.

Campbeltown—Colin Maclarty of Chestervale
Dingwall—Alexander Mackenzie of Hilton
Earlsferry—John Bruce
Haddington—John Martine
Irvine—Right Hon. Earl of Eglinton
Kirkintilloch—John Freeland
Kirkwall—James Riddoch of Cairston
Lesslie—Thomas White, sen.
Maybole—Adam Niven
New Galloway—Thomas Grierson
Newton-upon-Ayr—James Wallace
North Berwick—John Dalrymple

II. ECCLESIASTICAL.

Oct. 17.—The Rev. John Morton, to the Rectory of Thrigby, Norfolk.

—Rev. Joseph L'Oste, to the Rectory of Postwich, Norfolk.

—Rev. Richard John Geldart, to the Rectory of Little Billing, Northamptonshire.

—Rev. Charles James Blomfield, to the Rectory of Tuddenham, Suffolk.

—Rev John Trevenen, jun. to the Rectory of Claud, in Cornwall.

28.—Rev. John Brocklebank, D. D. to the Rectory of Taversham, county of Cambridge.

30.—Rev. William Jones, to the Rectory of Seartho, Lincolnshire.

—Rev. J. B. Jenkinson, to the Deanery of the Cathedral of Worcester.

Nov. 1.—The Rev. Alexander Torrence, on the presentation of James Tytler of Woodhouselee, Esq. to be assistant and successor to the Rev. William Torrence, his father, in the church and parish of Woodhouselee, or Glencorse.

4.—The Rev. W. Webb, D. D. master of Clare Hall, Cambridge, to be Vice-Chancellor of that University.

6.—Rev. James Anderson, to be Minister of the Associate Congregation of Dunblane.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

THE abstract in our last number extended from the middle of September to the middle of October. We apprehend, however, that our readers will be better pleased with the results of an entire month, and we have therefore given below an abstract for the whole of October. The weather, during the greater part of this period, was dry and steady, though unusually cold. The mean temperature of the last half of October has generally been found to be nearly the mean annual temperature of the place, but the remark has certainly not been verified this year. The mean temperature of the place where our observations are made, is from 45 to 46, but the mean of the last 15 days of October has been only $40\frac{3}{4}$, and that of the whole month $41\frac{3}{4}$. The mean of October 1816, at the same place, was considerably above 46. The weather, notwithstanding, was on the whole favourable, till towards the end of the month, when it became colder and wet with hurricanes of wind. The mean state of the atmosphere, with regard to dryness during the month, was 0.0015 grains of moisture to the cubic inch.

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE.

Extracted from the Register kept on the Banks of the Tay, four miles east from Perth, Latitude 56° 25′, Elevation 185 feet.

OCTOBER 1817.

Means.

THERMOMETER.	Degrees.
Mean of greatest daily heat,	48.064
. . . . . cold,	36.274
. . . temperature, 10 A. M.	42.887
. . . . . 10 P. M.	39.855
. . . of daily extremes,	42.169
. . . 10 A. M. and 10 P. M.	41.371
. . . 4 daily observations,	41.770

BAROMETER.	Inches.
Mean of 10 A. M. (temp. of mer. 47)	29.886
. . . 10 P. M. (temp. of mer. 47)	29.893
. . . both (temp. of mer. 47)	29.890

HYGROMETER (LESLIE'S).	Degrees.
Mean of 10 A. M.	12.742
. . . 10 P. M.	8.322
. . of both,	10.532
Rain in Inches,	1.474
Evaporation in ditto,	1.104
Fair days 18; rainy days 13,	31
Wind from W. of meridian, including N.	11
. . from E. of meridian, including S.	20

Extremes.

THERMOMETER.	Degrees.
Greatest heat, 8th	51.500
Greatest cold, 3d,	29.000
Highest 10 A. M. 15th,	48.500
Lowest ditto, 28th,	37.000
Highest 10 P. M. 14th,	45.500
Lowest ditto, 4th,	34.500

BAROMETER.	Inches.
Highest 10 A. M. 5th,	30.350
Lowest ditto, 30th,	28.555
Highest 10 P. M. 5th,	30.345
Lowest ditto, 30th,	28.750

HYGROMETER.	Degrees.
Highest 10 A. M. 2d,	28.000
Lowest ditto, 28th,	3.000
Highest 10 P. M. 1st,	18.000
Lowest ditto, 23d,	1.000
Greatest rain in 24 hours, 30th,	0.475
Least ditto, 10th,	0.017
Greatest mean daily evap. 1st to 5th,	0.046
Least ditto, 16th to 21st,	0.022

General character of the period: dry and cold, the month concluding with stormy weather.

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE,

Kept at Edinburgh, in the Observatory, Calton-hill.

N. B.—The Observations are made twice every day at eight o'clock in the morning, and eight o'clock in the evening.

		Ther.	Baro.	Attach. Ther.	Wind.	Remarks.			Ther.	Baro.	Attach. Ther.	Wind.	Remarks.
Oct.	16	M. 43	29.987	M. 43	E.	Mild, dull, rain even.	Oct.	24	M. 42	29.803	M. 44	S.	Mild and very misty.
		E. 40	.995	E. 45					E. 43	.778	E. 45		
	17	M. 39	.970	M. 42	Cble.	Mild, slight showers.		25	M. 42	.544	M. 43	S.	A fine day, rather dull.
		E. 40	.894	E. 42					E. 43	.380	E. 44		
	18	M. 42	.936	M. 42	E.	Rain morn. frost, dull.		26	M. 44	.353	M. 45	S.	Fair, but dull.
		E. 42	.885	E. 44					E. 39	.390	E. 43		
	19	M. 41	.956	M. 42	Calm.	Mild, dull, calm.		27	M. 40	.165	M. 41	S. W.	Frost. morn. showers aft.
		E. 41	.921	E. 44					E. 41	28.895	E. 42		
	20	M. 42	.990	M. 43	Calm.	Dull foren. clear aftern.		28	M. 34	.966	M. 38	S. W.	Fros. m. sno. for. fair aft.
		E. 40	.990	E. 42					E. 36	.966	E. 39		
	21	M. 40	.718	M. 42	Cble.	Mild foren. cold aftern.		29	M. 35	.987	M. 37	W.	Frosty, clear, and cold.
		E. 45	.558	E. 45					E. 35	.995	E. 35		
	22	M. 44	.596	M. 44	Calm.	Very mild, frost morn.		30	M. 42	.466	M. 42	S. W.	Heavy shwrs. wind high.
		E. 42	.794	E. 46					E. 38	.652	E. 41		
	23	M. 41	.889	M. 43	Calm.	Very misty day.		31	M. 38	.935	M. 40	S. W.	Very stormy, high winds.
		E. 41	.851	E. 44					E. 35	29.214	E. 39		

AGRICULTURAL REPORT.

It is painful to be under the necessity of stating, that the harvest in this part of the island has not yet terminated; and to have to add, that letters from almost every part of Britain, which we have recently received, do not contain so favourable a statement regarding the crops as we expressed in last Number. We do not say this for the purpose of exciting any alarm of scarcity or dearth, but merely, as far as in our power, to put the public on their guard against the exaggerated accounts which have been industriously propagated, of a most abundant crop. Such assertions, though perhaps well intended, must be most pernicious in their consequences, by leading to a disregard of economy among the rich, and to disappointment and irritation in the minds of the poor. It is certainly better to look steadily at the evil, and to lighten its pressure, by voluntarily adopting, at an early period, those measures recommended by a prudent foresight, which necessity may afterwards enforce with tenfold severity. Happily, however, there is not the least reason for apprehending any real want of the means of subsistence for another year, of which, owing to the lateness of the harvest, a month at least may be considered as already elapsed, should harvest come at the usual time next year. Potatoes, too, are every where a plentiful crop, of excellent quality, and saved without injury. Besides, if we rightly understand the act of 1815, which seems to require that the prices from 15th August to the 15th November are to be formed into an aggregate, and not the prices for the six weeks immediately preceding the 15th November, as some appear to have taken for granted, there is little reason to expect that the ports will be shut this month, except to beans and peas, which were already excluded by the averages taken in August, and perhaps rye; though it is no doubt true, that little relief can be expected from importation during winter. The words of the act are, "If it shall hereafter, at any time after the importation of foreign corn, meal, or flour, shall be permitted under the provisions of this act, appear that the average prices of the different sorts of British corn respectively, in the six weeks immediately *succeeding* (not *preceding*) the 15th February, the 15th May, the 15th August, and the 15th November, in each year, shall have fallen below the prices at which foreign corn, meal, or flour, may be under the provisions of this act, allowed to be imported for home consumption, no such foreign corn, &c. shall be allowed to be imported," &c.—Cattle and sheep have advanced about 20 per cent. at the late great markets, above the prices of last year, and in some instances considerably more; but at All Hallow Fair, now holding here, the prices given at Falkirk about a month ago can hardly be obtained. The butcher market begins to rise, but the retail price is very little higher than at the date of our last.

13th November.

CORN MARKETS.—*Edinburgh.*

1817.	Wheat. Boll	Prices	Av. pr	Barley.	Oats.	Pease.	Quar. Loaf.	Potat. p. peck	1817	Oatmeal. Boll	Peck.	Ba. & Pmeal Bolls.	Peck.
		s. s.	s. d.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s. d.	d.	d.			s. d.		s. d.
Oct. 22	451	29 52	41 10	26 33	24 30	24 30 0	12	8	Oct. 21	484	1 9	32	1 3
29	425	29 51	42 8	26 33	24 30	25 30 0	12	8	28	368	1 9	67	1 3
Nov. 5	596	23 51	43 0	28 35	20 30	25 30 0	12	8	Nov. 4	416	1 10	59	1 4
12	596	25 51	42 3	26 34	20 28	26 30 0	13	8	11	—	1 10	—	1 4

Glasgow.

1817.	Wheat, 240 lbs. Dantzic.	For. red.	Scotch.	Oats, 264 lbs. Irish.	Scots.	Eng.	Barley, 320 lbs. English.	Scotch.	Bns. & Pse. Stit.	Mea.	Oatmeal 140 lbs.	Flour. 280 lbs.
	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.		s. s.	s. s.
Oct. 22	44 48	32 38	— —	20 30	24 30	28 30	32 36	30 34	26	30	26 28	70 75
29	44 48	32 38	— —	20 28	24 28	28 30	32 36	30 34	26	30	25 27	70 75
Nov. 5	44 48	32 42	— —	20 28	24 28	28 30	34 44	30 38	26	30	25 27	70 75
12	48 54	35 44	— —	20 29	24 30	28 31	34 44	30 38	26	30	25 28	70 75

Haddington.

1817.	Wheat. Bolls.	Prices.	Av. pr.	Barley.	Oats.	Pease.	Beans.
		s. s. d.	s. d.	s. s.	s. s. d.	s. s.	s. s.
Oct. 24	688	25 48 0	39 7	22 34	20 30 0	21 27	21 27
31	790	22 50 0	41 4	26 36	20 29 0	25 29	25 29
Nov. 7	892	24 48 0	40 2	24 35	20 30 0	27 36	27 36
14	778	21 48 0	39 0	27 36	19 29 6	26 32	26 32

Dalkeith.

1817.	Oatmeal. Per Boll.	Per Pck.
	s. d. s. d.	s. d.
Oct. 20	25 0 26 6	1 9
27	21 0 26 3	1 9
Nov. 3	24 0 26 6	1 9
10	24 0 26 6	1 9

London.

1817.	Wheat. per qr.	Rye.	Barley.	Oats. Fd & Pol	Potat.	Beans. Pigeon.	Tick.	Pease. Boiling.	Grey.	Flour, 280lb. Fine.	2d.	Quar. Loaf.
	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	d.
Oct. 20	47 94	30 36	24 54	12 32	32 36	40 50	34 43	45 60	37 42	75 80	55 70	14
27	54 98	30 36	24 55	14 33	33 36	40 50	34 43	44 58	38 44	75 80	55 70	14
Nov. 3	54 98	30 40	24 55	15 34	33 36	40 50	34 45	44 58	40 45	75 80	55 70	14
10	50 94	30 40	24 56	15 32	30 35	40 50	35 46	44 58	44 47	75 80	55 70	14

Liverpool.

1817.	Wheat. 70 lb.	Oats. 45 lb.	Barley. 60 lb.	Rye, per qr.	Beans, per qr.	Pease, per qr.	Flour. Eng. 240 lb	Irish.	Amer. 196 lb	Oatmeal, 240 lb. Eng.	Scots	Irish.
	s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.	s. s.
Oct. 14	6 6 13 0	2 6 4 6	4 0 6 0	40 45	45 58	48 54	60 65	00 00	38 53	34 38	30 34	28 32
21	6 6 12 9	2 6 4 6	4 0 6 0	36 38	40 58	48 54	60 65	00 00	38 53	34 38	30 34	28 32
28	6 6 13 0	2 6 4 0	4 6 6 6	00 00	45 58	48 54	—	00 00	52 54	34 38	30 34	28 32
Nov. 4	7 6 14 0	2 10 4 9	4 9 7 0	36 38	40 62	56 66	64 68	00 00	42 58	34 38	30 34	28 32

All England and Wales.

1817.	Wht.	Rye.	Brley.	Oats.	Beans.	Pease.	Oatm. 140lb.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Oct. 11	78 4	44 10	42 5	27 11	47 10	42 5	34 6
18	78 9	46 4	42 3	27 11	46 3	43 0	35 10
25	77 3	45 6	41 5	27 0	45 9	45 2	33 1
Nov. 1	77 10	45 6	42 3	27 3	47 9	47 6	33 2

Maritime Districts.

Dts.	Wht.	Rye.	Barley.	Oats.	Beans.	Pease.
Oct.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
11	78 4	43 1	41 10	25 8	46 4	41 1
18	80 4	45 11	41 9	00 0	45 6	38 4
25	78 7	44 5	40 7	25 2	42 9	43 2
Nov1	79 2	43 7	41 5	25 1	47 2	43 4

Average Prices of Scotland for the Four Weeks immediately preceding 15th Oct.

Wheat, 68s. 4d.—Rye, 58s. 3d.—Barley, 40s. 4d.—Oats, 32s. 7d.—Beans, 52s. 7d.—Pease, 51s. 5d.—Oatmeal, 27s. 11d.—Bear or Big, 51s. 11d.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

COLONIAL PRODUCE.—*Sugars.*—Since last report the market has been heavy, and a small reduction in most descriptions has been submitted to. The sale of refined goods has been rather considerable, at a reduction of 1s. to 2s. Foreign remains without alteration. *Coffee.*—The demand for coffee has increased considerably last week, and parcels go off freely at an advance of 1s. to 2s., and holders are confidently looking for a farther improvement, both in the demand and prices. *Cotton.*—The business done is trivial. A few Pernams were sold last week at 2s. 2d.; Maranhams, 2s. 1d.; Rios, 23½d.; Good fair D. T. Bengals, offered at 12½d without facilitating sales. *Rum.*—There have been great speculations in this article, owing to a report that Gover nment would immediately require a large quantity; prices have consequently risen 2d. to 3d. per gallon. *Indigo.*—The sale at the India House commenced on the 14th, and closed on the 23d ult. The fine qualities sold 6d., the good 9d. to 1s., the middling 1s. 3d., the ordinary 1s. 6d. to 1s. 9d. per lb. higher than last sale. *Spices.*—Pimento heavy; good quality about 9d. Ginger, Cinnamon, Mace, Nutmegs, and Cloves, without alteration either on demand or prices. *Tobacco.*—The purchasers, anticipating extensive arrivals, have declined buying till they see the extent of the import. *Oil.*—Whale oil in Holland is quoted about L. 42 to L. 43, free on board in London. Every description of oil is quoted L. 2 to L. 3 per ton lower, except Sperm. Some small sales of Gallipoli at L. 120.

EUROPEAN PRODUCE.—*Hemp, Flax, and Tallow.*—The prices of tallow have advanced considerably. Hemp has risen L. 1 to L. 2 per ton, and considerable business has been done at the improvement. The request for flax has also been extensive, at advancing prices. *Brandy and Geneva.*—Brandy is uncommonly high; the letters from France state a farther advance at Bourdeaux, the vintage this year having been nearly destroyed. Geneva in Holland also reported to be greatly advanced, which has had a corresponding effect in this country.

British Manufactures.—Wool has advanced 50 per cent. within the last few weeks, owing to the great demand for woollen goods. In the iron trade the increasing demand has produced within the last six months an advance of L. 4 per ton on that article. The cotton manufacturers are generally in full employ. Of the raw article, there has been a great failure in America; but 20,000 bags have lately been imported into Liverpool, chiefly from the East and West Indies. The foreign demand for our manufactured goods appears to have been great, by the accounts from the most opposite quarters. In the United States they were selling largely, and to a good profit; and at the Leipsic fair, though they sold cheap, yet the advantage was gained in point of quantity; for, as the German writers with great *naiveté* admit, "the *prejudice* of the multitude is always very much in their favour."—Nov. 8.

Course of Exchange, Nov. 7.—Amsterdam, 37 : 6. B. 2 U. Ditto at sight, 37 : 0. Agio of the Bank on Holland, 2. Rotterdam, 11 : 11 : 2 U. Antwerp, 11 : 11. Hamburgh, 34 : 9 : 2½ U. Altona, 34 : 10 : 2½ U. Paris, 3 days sight, 24 : 40 U. Bourdeaux, 24 : 60. Frankfort on the Maine, 145 Ex. M. Madrid, 38¾ effective. Cadiz, 38½ effective. Gibraltar, 32. Leghorn, 49½. Naples, 42¼. Lisbon, 58. Rio Janeiro, 62. Dublin, 8¼. per cent. Cork, 8¼.

Prices of Gold and Silver, per oz.—Portugal gold, in coin, L. 4, 0s. 6d. Foreign gold, in bars, L. 4, 0s. 6d. New dollars, L. 0, 5s. 2½d. Silver in bars, standard, L. 0, 5s. 3¼d.

Premiums of Insurance.—The premiums at Lloyd's are considerably higher, on account of the season of the year; to or from Holland 30s. to 40s. per cent.; Hamburgh, Bremen, &c. 2gs.; Gottenburgh 3gs.; St Petersburgh, Riga, &c. 8 to 10gs.; Canada, &c. 8gs. with returns. The coasters are also higher; to Liverpool, Dublin, Belfast, &c. 30s.; Limerick 40s. to 50s.; all others are a shade advanced on account of the season.

Weekly Prices of the Public Funds from October 15 to November 7, 1817.

	Oct. 15th.	Oct. 22d.	Oct. 29th.	Nov. 7th.
Bank stock,	280½	285	——	290½
3 per cent. reduced,	81½	81½	81½	82⅜
3 per cent. consols,	82⅛	82¼	82⅛	83¼
4 per cent. consols,	99⅛	98¾	98⅛	99
5 per cent. navy ann.	107¾	107⅞	107½	108⅛
Imperial 3 per cent. ann.	82¼	——	——	81
India stock,	245½	——	232	247
—— bonds,	112pr.	100pr.	100pr.	101pr.
Exchequer bills, 2½d.	21pr.	21pr.	21pr.	20pr.
—— 3d.	26 31pr.	22 29pr.	23 30pr.	21 28pr.
—— 3½d.	21 22pr.	18 19pr.	19pr.	19 21pr.
Consols for acc.	82¾	81½	82⅞	83⅜
American 3 per cent.	——	——	——	65
—— new loan, 6 p. cent.	——	——	——	106¾
French 5 per cents.	64fr. 70c.	64fr. 95c.	65fr. 5c.	64fr. 95c.

PRICES CURRENT.—Nov. 8.

	Leith.	Glasgow.	Liverpool.	per
Sugar, *Musc.*				
B. P. Dry Brown, . . .	76 @ —	78 @ 81	72 @ 78	cwt.
Mid. good, and fine mid.	82 86	82 92	79 87	
Fine and very fine, . .	88 96	— —	89 92	
Refined, Double Loaves, . . .	155 165	— —	— —	
Powder ditto, . . .	126 130	— —	— —	
Single ditto, ...	120 124	123 125	122 126	
Small Lumps, . . .	115 118	118 120	124 128	
Large ditto, ...	112 114	116 —	112 120	
Crushed Lumps, . . .	66 70	69 70	67 70	
Molasses, British, ...	39 —	37 38	40 —	
Coffee, *Jamaica*,				
Ord. good, and fine ord.	86 93	87 93	82 88	
Mid. good, and fine mid.	93 106	94 105	89 100	
Dutch, Triage and very ord. .	— —	— —	— —	
Ord. good, and fine ord.	— —	— —	— —	
Mid. good, and fine mid.	— —	— —	— —	
St Domingo, ...	— —	90 93	85 91	
Pimento (in Bond), ...	8½ 9	9 9½	9 9¼	lb.
Spirits, Jamaica Rum, 16 O. P.	3s 6d 3s 8d	3s 4 3s 6	3s 2 3s 4	gall.
Brandy, ...	7 6 7 9	— —	— —	
Geneva, ...	3 10 4 0	— —	— —	
Grain Whisky, . . .	7 0 7 3	— —	— —	
Wines, Claret, 1st Growths, .	45 50	— —	— —	hhd.
Portugal Red, ...	38 45	— —	— —	pipe.
Spanish White, . . .	30 46	— —	— —	butt.
Teneriffe, ...	30 35	— —	— —	pipe.
Madeira, ...	60 70	— —	— —	
Logwood, Jamaica, . . .	£8 £8 10	£8 0 £8 10	£8 0 £8 10	ton.
Honduras, ...	8 9	8 10 —	8 15 9 5	
Campeachy, ...	9 10	9 0 10 0	9 10 9 15	
Fustic, Jamaica, ...	12 13	12 10 13 0	12 12 14 0	
Cuba, ...	17 —	— —	18 10 19 0	
Indigo, Caraccas fine, . . .	9s 6d 11s 6d	8s 6 9s 6	9s 0 11s 6	lb.
Timber, American Pine, . .	2 3 2 6	— —	2 3 2 4	foot.
Ditto Oak, ...	4 6 5 6	— —	— —	
Christiansand (duties paid),	2 4 2 5	— —	— —	
Honduras Mahogany, .	0 11 1 4	0 10 1 8	1 0 1 4	
St Domingo ditto, . .	— —	1 2 3 0	1 9 2 3	
Tar, American, ...	— —	— —	16 0 17 0	brl.
Archangel, ...	22 23	— —	22 0 23 0	
Pitch, Foreign, ...	14 —	— —	— —	cwt.
Tallow, Russia Yellow Candle,	73 75	75 77	71 —	
Home melted, . . .	68 —	— —	— —	
Hemp, Riga Rhine, ...	£46 48	£43 £44	— —	ton.
Petersburgh Clean, . .	45 46	41 42	43 —	
Flax, Riga Thies. and Druj. Rak.	63 —	— —	— —	
Dutch, ...	50 120	— —	— —	
Irish, ...	52 53	— —	— —	
Mats, Archangel, ...	£6 0 £6 6	— —	— —	100
Bristles, Petersburgh Firsts,	16 10 £17	— —	— —	cwt.
Ashes, Petersburgh Pearl, . .	63s —	— —	— —	
Montreal ditto, . . .	64s 66s	60s 62s	61 62	
Pot, ...	46s 47s	46s 47s	46s 0 47s 0	
Oil, Whale, ...	55s —	55 56	57 58	tun.
Cod, ...	55(p. brl.)—	— —	Uncertain.	
Tobacco, Virginia fine, . . .	8 9	10½ 11	0 8 0 9	lb.
middling, .	7 8	9½ 10	0 5½ 0 6	
inferior, .	6½ 7	8 9	0 4½ 0 5	
Cottons, Bowed Georgia, . .	— —	1 8 1 10½	1 7 1 10½	
Sea Island, fine, . . .	— —	2 8 2 10	2 6 2 7	
good, . . .	— —	2 5 2 7	2 4 2 5	
middling, .	— —	2 3 2 5	1 11 2 3	
Demerara and Berbice, .	— —	2 0 2 3	1 10 2 2	
West India, ...	— —	1 10 2 0	1 9 1 10	
Pernambuco, ...	— —	2 2 2 3	2 2 2 2½	
Maranham, ...	— —	2 1 2 2	2 0 2 0½	

ALPHABETICAL LIST of ENGLISH BANKRUPTCIES, announced between 10th and 31st October, 1817, extracted from the London Gazette.

Apedaile, G. North Shields, timber merchant
Amis, J, Little Britain, fishmonger
Ansell, T. London, horse-dealer
Burman, T. Dewsbury, woollen manufacturer
Beerenbrock, C. London, merchant
Boswood, J. Brighton, tobacconist
Cooper, W. London, merchant
Crosby, R. Kentish Town, bookseller
Davies, J. Canterbury, linen-draper
Deam, J. Woolton, painter
Dodson, P. Bedminster, baker
Dodd, T. London and Liverpool, printseller
Edwards, T. Daresbury, druggist
Evans, R. Grimley, coal-dealer
Farish, W. Whitehaven, mariner
Forman, J. jun. Mountsorrel, hosier
Granville, A. Plymouth Dock, china and glass merchant
Gibbons, J. Cheltenham, ironmonger
Glascodine, J. Westbury-upon-Trym, carpenter
Hammond, H. London, glass-cutter
Harris, J. London, victualler
Haswell, B. Wellington, grocer
Hillier, H. London, victualler
Hester, J. London, brickmaker
Hobbs, E. Bankside, wrought-iron manufacturer
Iredale, W. B. Sheffield, mercer
Lloyd, R. Dolgelly, tanner
Massdy, S. Sheadle Moseley, dealer
Minoit, S. and O. Crease, London, merchants
Maish, T. Bristol, cheese factor
Mallins, H. London, coffeehouse-keeper
Miller, J. and J. London, shoemakers
Ogsden, J. P. Leicester, hosier
Rew, G. Liverpool, linen-draper
Rourke, L. London, victualler
Robson, C. Bermondsey, shipwright
Ratcliffe, H. Thornton, farmer
Roberts, D. St Columb Major, shopkeeper
Singer, E. Coseley, victualler
Stockholm, W. Bristol, baker
Smart, J. London, ironmonger
Smith, W. South Shields, sailmaker
Sweetman, J. B. London and Birmingham, grocer
Thomson, R. Chipping Sodbury, baker
Tuckett, C. J. London and Birmingham, grocer
Walker, C. W. Brighton, stationer
Williams, R. Dolgelly, skinner
Whittington, T. Trowbridge, carpenter
Wigner, J. Harwich, sailmaker
Yeoland, P. Plymouth, straw-hat manufacturer

ALPHABETICAL LIST of SCOTCH BANKRUPTS, announced between October 10 and 31, 1817, extracted from the Edinburgh Gazette.

SEQUESTRATIONS.

Angus, W. Glasgow, vintner and horse-setter
Bowie, F. in Tardours, Ayrshire
Reith, J. Edinburgh, merchant
Stevenson, H. tertius, Oban, merchant

DIVIDENDS.

Aberdein, Machattie, and Co. Aberdeen, merchants; by the trustees there, 18th November.
Brown, J. Alyth, merchant; by J. Duncan, jun. manufacturer there, 30th November
Dempster, R. Nairn, merchant; by J. Forsyth, writer in Forres, 2d December
Jobson, D. sen. Dundee, merchant; by W. Bisset, merchant there, 22d November
Paton, G. Ayr, tobacconist; by J. Brown, writer there, 25th November.—Final
Phillips, J. Glasgow, upholsterer; by J. Imray, merchant there, 3d December
Sandeman and Co. and Sandeman, Halket, and Co. Glasgow, merchants; by W. Carrick, accountant there, 29th November.—Final
Sangster, W. Old Meldrum, wright; by A. Allan, advocate, Aberdeen, 1st December.—Final
Skirving, J. Musselburgh, corn-merchant; by D. Cleghorn, W. S. Edinburgh, 11th November
Thom, W. Glasgow, corn-merchant; by J. Cumming, writer there, 28th November
Thomson, D. Ayr, merchant; by W. Brown, sen. merchant there, 3d December

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

August 16. At Quebec, the lady of W. Scott, Esq. younger of Wool, a son.

Sept. 7. The lady of James Kinloch, Esq. Brunswick Square, London, a son.

— Mrs Wishart, Heriot Row, Edinburgh, a daughter.

October 1. At College, Glasgow, Mrs Meikleham, a daughter.

2. Mrs Ogilvy, 6, Abercromby Place, Edinburgh, a daughter.

4. At Clifton, the Marchioness of Ely, a son.

7. At his house, in Southampton Row, London, the lady of the Hon. Charles Law, a daughter.

— At Aberdeen, Mrs Burnett of Park, a daughter.

9. At Kelly, the lady of the Hon. Colonel Ramsay, a daughter.

10. At York Place, Edinburgh, Mrs Hunt of Pittencrieff, a son.

11. At Fermoy House, Ireland, the lady of Sir J. Anderson, Bart., a daughter.

— Elizabeth Rutherford, wife of John Maclaggan, wheel-wright, Aberfeldy, a very poor man, a boy and two girls. One of the girls died a few seconds after birth; the others, with the mother, are doing well.

12. At Sandgate, the lady of Captain William Hamilton, a son.

— At York, Mrs Milner of Newmonkton, a son.

15. At Munshes, Mrs Maxwell, a son.

16. The lady of Lieut.-Colonel Sir Hew Dalrymple Ross, K. C. B. of the Royal Horse Artillery, a son.

— In North Queen Street, Glasgow, Mrs Andrew Hamilton, a daughter.

— The lady of G. H. Jackson, Esq. of Glenmore, a son.

17. At Old Aberdeen, Mrs Colonel Forbes, a daughter.

18. Mrs Russell, 95, George Street, Edinburgh, a son.

20. Mrs Grant, Duke Street, Edinburgh, a son.

— In Dublin Street, Edinburgh, the lady of Major Alston, a son.

21. At Ednam, Mrs Peter Robertson, a daughter.

— At Woodbine Cottage, Brixton Hill, the lady of Lieutenant-Colonel Mackenzie, a son.

23. At Sporle, the lady of the Hon. and Rev. A. Turnour, a daughter.

— In Gayfield Place, Edinburgh, Mrs Nicholson, a daughter.

27. At Castlecraig, the Hon. Lady Gibson Carmichael of Skirling, a son.

28. In Marischal Street, Aberdeen, Mrs Alex. Forbes, a daughter.

29. At Ormiston Hall, the Countess of Hopetoun, a son.

30. Mrs Trotter, Northumberland Street, Edinburgh, a daughter.

— Mrs Laing Meason of Lindertis, a daughter.

— At Parknook, Cumberland, Mrs Charles Parker, a daughter.

— At Edinburgh, the lady of Captain Bunworth, 88th regiment, a daughter.

— Mrs Dickson, No. 9, North St David Street, Edinburgh, a son.

Lately at Seaforth Lodge, Lewis, Mrs Forbes Mackenzie, a son.

At Hampton Court, London, the lady of Captain Walker, royal navy, a son.

MARRIAGES.

Feb. 4. At Tirhoot, in Bengal, John Morison, Esq. M. D. of the Hon. the East India Company's service, to Miss Anne Sloane, second daughter of the late Major Sloane, also of the service of the East India Company.

22. At the house of Duncan Campbell, Esq. Patna, Bengal, Henry Middleton, Esq. of the Hon. Company's service, to Miss Mary Anne Ochterlony, daughter of Major-General Sir David Ochterlony, Bart. K. C. B.

July 19. At Edinburgh, by the Rev. Henry Garnock, Mr Thomas Pringle, to Margaret, daughter of the late Mr William Brown, farmer at Papple, East Lothian.

Sept. 3. In the Protestant church of St Pierre's, in the island of Guernsey, Thomas Williams, Esq. eldest son of Captain Edward Williams, royal navy, to Eliza Helen, eldest daughter of the late Major-General Andrew Hay of Montblairy.

15. At St Mary-la-Bonne Church, London, Mr C. F. Smart, to Miss Caroline Collis, daughter of F. W. Collis, Esq.

— At Annfield, near Stirling, Mr William Galbraith, writer, Stirling, to Miss Christian Littlejohn, daughter of Provost Littlejohn, Stirling.

— At Wigtown, John Black, Esq. writer, Wigtown, to Susan, youngest daughter of Dr Robert Couper there.

21. At the manse of Westray, Robert Pringle, Esq. of the Excise, Orkney, to Miss Eliza Oliphant, daughter of the Rev. Spence Oliphant, Largo.

29. William Brown, Esq. merchant, Glasgow, to Miss Jean Wilsone, daughter of Charles Wilsone, Esq. surgeon.

Oct. 8. At Tweedmouth Church, Lieut. James Wood, royal navy, to Jane, eldest daughter of Captain James Nesbitt of Spittal.

10. At Edinburgh, Mr William Tennant, of the Custom House there, to Marion, only daughter of the deceased Captain Robert Gairdner of the Hon. East India Company's artillery.

13. At Hawkhill House, Thomas Kay, Esq. merchant, Rotterdam, to Miss Henrietta Sophia Cassels, youngest daughter of the late Andrew Cassels, Esq. of Leith.

14. At Edinburgh, Robert Cadell, Esq. bookseller, to Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Archibald Constable, Esq.

— At Linlathen, Charles Stirling, Esq. merchant in Glasgow, to Christian, daughter of the late David Erskine, Esq. clerk to the signet.

— At Ealibus, in Islay, Duncan Mackenzie, Esq. surgeon of the Hon. East India Company's service, to Ann, youngest daughter of Samuel Crawford, Esq.

16. By special licence, at the lady's house, in Montagu Square, London, Rear-Admiral Sir Philip Durham, K. C. B. to Miss Henderson, daughter of Sir John Henderson, Bart.

— By special licence, at the house of the Countess Dowager Delawar, at Bath, Lieutenant-Colonel D'Arcy, of the royal artillery, to Lady Catherine Georgina West, daughter of the late and sister of the present Earl Delawar.

— At Linlithgow, Mr Andrew Simson, writer, Glasgow, to Clara, daughter of Thomas Spens, Esq. Collector of Excise, Linlithgow.

— At London, Edmond Antrobus, Esq. nephew of Sir Edmond Antrobus, Bart. to Anne, only daughter of the Hon. Hugh Lindsay, of Plaistow Lodge, and niece to the Earl of Balcarras and Countess of Hardwicke.

16. At Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Alexander Renny, Esq. of Riga, to Harriet Tempest, youngest daughter of Robert Blakiston, Esq. of Sunderland.

— At Carlisle, Charles Tawse, Esq. writer to the signet, to Sarah Harriet, only daughter of the late John Connell, Esq. of Carlisle.

17. At Albany Street, North Leith John Robertson, Esq. merchant, Leith, Margaretta Elizabeth, daughter of J. J. Ltn. Moller, Esq. Hamburgh.

— At Clyde Bank, near Dumbarton, Mr John Pollock, insurance broker, Edinburgh, to Margaret, only daughter of the late Mr James Symington, bookseller, Edinburgh.

18. At St Anne's Church, Dublin, Captain the Hon. James Ashley Maude, R. N. to Miss Albina Brodrick, second daughter of his Grace the Archbishop of Cashel.

20. At Thurso, W. H. Torrence, Esq. to Eliza, eldest daughter of William Nairn,

Esq. captain in his Majesty's 46th regiment of foot.

21. At London, the Right Hon. Lord Selsey, to the Hon. Miss Irby, youngest daughter of Lord Boston.

— At Netherplace, Glasgow, Patrick Reid, Esq. of Hazleden, to Agnes, eldest daughter of Robert Hay, Esq. Netherplace.

27. At Stoney Hill House, Thomas Martin, Esq. writer, Edinburgh, to Jane, only daughter of Francis Anderson, Esq. writer to the signet.

— At the Manse of Lanark, Alexander Gillespie, Esq. of Sunnyside, to Miss Jane Menzies, eldest daughter of the Rev. W. Menzies, minister of Lanark.

— At Paisley, William Lowndes, Esq. of Arthurlie, to Janet, second daughter of Adam Keir, Esq. banker.

28. At Edinburgh, James Ivory Esq. advocate, to Ann, second daughter of Alexander Lawrie, Esq.

30. At London, the Rev. Percival Spearman Wilkinson, son of Thomas Wilkinson, Esq. of Witton Castle, Durham, to Sophia Mary, only daughter of Captain Anstruther, nephew of Sir Robert Anstruther, Bart. of Balcaskie, formerly of the 77th and 62d regiments.

Lately—At Chelsea, John Sim, M. D. of London, to Anne Eliza, eldest daughter of James Clark, M. D. F. R. and F. A. S. of Dominica.

DEATHS.

February 10. At Bombay, in Colonel Smith's camp, Major Alexander Campbell, of the 9th regiment, Bombay native infantry, (son to Mr John Campbell, Surveyor of the Customs at the port of Perth.) He was unhappily killed by his horse falling with him, when on a party enjoying the sports of the field, of which he was passionately fond.

March 21. In camp at Ieegaum Tokely Berar, Madras, in the prime of life, Captain Angus M'Lachlan, of his Majesty's 2d battalion 1st (or Royal Scots) regiment of foot, sincerely regretted by his brother officers.

April 16. At Amdangah Factory, Jessore, India, Mr William Gibson, indigo planter, son of the late Mr Peter Gibson, writer in Ayr.

July 7. At Montserrat, in his 80th year, Dr Alexander Hood, Speaker of the Assembly, and 44 years a Member of that House, a gentleman of great reputation in his profession, and of much respectability in society.

19. At Roseau, in Dominica, Mrs Margaret Thomson, daughter of the late Secretary Thomson, of the Excise for Scotland, and widow of James Bruce, Esq. late Governor of Dominica.

August 10. At St John's, Antigua, after four days illness, of the yellow fever, Ebenezer Pattison, in the 22d year of his age.

14. Of a fever, at Burleigh Castle estate, island of Tobago, Mr James Hutcheson, son of John Hutcheson, Esq. of Fulbar, Renfrew.

18. At Charlestown, South Carolina, after three days illness, Mr Alexander Caw, late merchant in Leith.

21. On his passage home from Trinidad, Mr George Gardner, fourth son of Mr Harrie Gardner, merchant, Edinburgh.

31. In Halifax, Nova Scotia, James, eldest son of Mr James Ferguson, merchant in Aberdeen, in the 28th year of his age, much and justly regretted.

September 14. At Inveroasly, in Sutherlandshire, Mr John Reed, formerly of Prendwick, Northumberland, aged 40.

21. At St Petersburgh, Duke Jules de Polignac, well known for the distinguished favours with which he was honoured by Louis XVI.

25. At Muirbank, Miss Buchanan.

— At Brechin, in the 21st year of her age, Helen Young, third daughter of the late John Sivewright, Esq.

26. At Craigthornhill, parish of Glassford, the Rev. James Russell of Townhead, Mearns. For several years he was minister of the Associate congregation at Torphichen, in the county of Linlithgow.

— At Stonehaven, James Campbell, mail contractor.

October 2. At Broughty Ferry, Mrs Margaret Bisset, spouse of the Rev. William Maul of Monikie.

— At Hermitage Place, Leith Links, in the 85th year of her age, Mrs Christian Kellie, relict of Bailie William Robertson, merchant, Leith.

3. In Marischal Street, Aberdeen, Mrs Bannerman, aged 64.

4. At Dundee, James Steele, Esq. late from India, Surgeon of his Majesty's 52d regiment of foot.

6. At Nantes, in France, after a long and distressing illness, Charles Byron, aged two years, the only son of James Wedderburn and the Hon. Lady Frances Wedderburn Webster.

7. At Kirkaldy, Mr William Whyte, in the 74th year of his age.

9. In the 11th year of his age, George, the sixth son of Mr Samuel Philbrick of Great Dunmow, Essex. The cause of his premature death originated at school, from a dangerous practice, to prevent which, the strictest orders should be given, and most rigorously enforced: we allude to little boys endeavouring to carry on their backs those larger than themselves. In doing so, this youth received an injury in the hip, which brought on a wound, with which he suffered for many months, and, notwithstanding every medical assistance was resorted to, in the end it proved mortal. This may be received as an useful caution by schoolmasters and parents, and it is hoped will be properly attended to.

10. At Glasgow, Andrew Macnair, Esq. in the 74th year of his age.

— At Cookstown, Ireland, of a typhus fever, Mrs Glasgow, relict of the Rev. John Glasgow, late of Colerain.

11. At Dundee, Miss Thomson, Miln's Buildings; who, for many years, conducted a seminary for the education of young ladies in Dundee, with great honour to herself, and usefulness to the public. Miss Thomson laboured for a considerable time under her indisposition, but endured her distress with truly Christian fortitude, and bowed to the will of Heaven with the most pious resignation. She has bequeathed the following donations for charitable purposes:—To the Orphan Institution, Dundee, L. 19, 19s.; the Kirk Session of Dundee, L. 19, 19s.; the Female Society, Dundee, L. 10; the Society for the Indigent Sick, Dundee, L. 10; the Dundee Infirmary, L. 10; the Lunatic Asylum, Dundee, L. 10.—Total, L. 79, 18s.

12. William Harkness, Esq. of Dublin, an eminent merchant, and a Director of the Bank of Ireland.

14. At the Manse of Anstruther West, after being delivered of a son on the 6th, Mary Dickson, aged 31, wife of the Rev. Andrew Carstairs, much and justly regretted.

— At Edinburgh, Mrs Isabella Purdie, spouse of Mr John Thiorais of Moscow.

— At Colinton, Mrs Jamieson, wife of Mr Thomas Jamieson, farmer there.

— At Tayfield House, John Berry, Esq. of Tayfield, in the 93d year of his age.

15. At his seat at Melchburne, Bedfordshire, the Right Hon. St Andrew Lord St John, Baron St John of Bletsoe. His Lordship was the 13th Peer in succession of that name, Baron of Bletsoe and Baronet. The family were summoned to Parliament in the first year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth. Lord St John represented the county of Bedford in Parliament for 25 years, previously to the death of his brother, whom he succeeded in the Peerage. He has left a widow, daughter of Sir C. Rous Broughton, Bart. pregnant, and a son, who succeeds him in his title and estates, of five years of age.

— At Kelso, Mrs Elizabeth Rutherford, late of Birsielees, Roxburghshire.

— At Helensburgh, Captain James Booth, R. N. after an illness of about three weeks.

16. At Montrose, Mr George Smith, in the 81st year of his age.

— Suddenly at his house in Conduit Street, Hanover Square, London, John Barclay, Esq. surgeon, in the 58th year of his age.

— At Edinburgh, Miss Mary Harvey, daughter of Mr W. G. Harvey, Battle, Sussex.

17. The Rev. Robert Stirling, minister of the parish of Dunblane.

— At his house, Amelia Place, Brompton, the Right Hon. John Philpot Curran. Mr Curran was one of that galaxy of talent which arose almost from obscurity, and illumined the Sister Island within these last fifty years. With a mind richly cultivated, and a flow of wit rarely equalled, Mr Curran remained for some time after he was called to the bar in comparative retirement; but his was not a spirit destined to be inactive, and his genius towering above that of most of his contemporaries, burst its way through these great obstacles to merit—indigence and want of interest. The celebrity which his first forensic displays procured him, soon removed the one, and supplied the other. This reward of his early efforts stimulated him to further; and, in the prime of his life, his unrivalled eloquence placed him in that situation at the bar which is often considered the ample reward of nearly a whole life of exertion. As a senator, Mr Curran was more distinguished for sallies of wit and humour than for genuine eloquence. He possessed more the art of annoying his Parliamentary opponents by sarcastic and pointed retorts, than of meeting them by argument or declamation. At the bar, however, his talents had their full scope. This was the sphere where he shone unrivalled, where he seemed to be endued with more than human powers. It was truly said of him, that no advocate ever made the cause of his client so much his own. He entered into it with as much zeal as if he was pleading for his own life; and to his credit it must be owned, that his rare combination of talent and of zeal was in most instances successful. In 1806, Mr C. was appointed Master of the Rolls in Ireland, a situation in which he particularly distinguished himself for clear and correct decisions. He held that office until 1815, when he was succeeded by Sir William M'Mahon.

18. At Belfast, Serjeant Alexander Cameron, Piper-Major of the 92d, or Cameronian Highlanders. His merits as a performer on the Highland bagpipe were generally acknowledged, but they could not be duly appreciated but by those who felt the inspiring effects of his animating strains on the toilsome march, or amid the thunder of the battle. He served in the Peninsula during the whole of the late war, and by his zeal attracted the notice of several officers of high rank. Lieutenant-General Sir William Erskine, in a letter to a friend after the affair of Rio del Molinas, says, "The first intimation the enemy had of our approach, was the piper of the 92d playing '*Hey Johnny Coup are ye waukin' yet.*' To this favourite air from Cameron's

pipe, the streets of Brussels re-echoed on the night of the 15th of June, when the regiment assembled to march out to the field of Waterloo. Once, and once only, was this brave soldier missed in his accustomed place in the front of the battle, and the occasion strongly marks the powerful influence which the love of fame had upon his mind. In a London newspaper, a very flattering eulogium had appeared on the conduct of a piper of another regiment. Our gallant musician, conscious that no one could surpass him in zeal or intrepidity, felt hurt that *he* should not also have gained this flattering distinction, and declared, that "if *his* name did not appear in the newspapers, he would no more play in the battle field!" Accordingly, in the next affair with the enemy, Cameron's pipe was mute! Some insinuations against the piper reached his ear. The bare idea of his motives being misunderstood was torture to poor Cameron, and overcame at once the sullen resolution he had formed of remaining silent in the rear. He rushed forward; and, not content with gaining his place at the head of the regiment, advanced with a party of skirmishers, and, placing himself on a height in full view of the enemy, continued to animate the party by playing favourite national airs. For the last two years his health sensibly declined. He was afflicted with an asthma, which the blowing of the bagpipe tended to aggravate. Notwithstanding, he could not be induced to resign his favourite employment, but continued till very lately to play "The Gathering" for the daily assembling of the regiment. His remains were attended to the grave by several officers, all the non-commissioned officers, and the grenadier company, to which the deceased belonged.

18. At her house, Frederick Street, Edinburgh, Mrs Anne Johnson, late of Canonmills.

19. At Old Aberdeen, Mrs Rose, widow of the Rev. John Rose, late minister of Udny.

— At Glasgow, Miss Agnes Crosse, daughter of the late Robert Crosse, Esq. merchant in Glasgow.

20. At Portobello, James Stormonth, Esq. of Lednathy, writer in Edinburgh, in the 86th year of his age.

— In Frederick Street, Miss Crockat, daughter of Archibald Crockat, Esq. late of New York.

— At his house in Chester Place, Pimlico, Mr Raymond, the intelligent and active Manager of Drury-Lane. He was seized with an apoplectic fit early in the morning, and lay in a state of insensibility (motionless and speechless) till the moment of his death, which was gradual and without pain. Mr R. was a native of Aberdeenshire; and it is to his credit that he wrought his way up to the professional eminence which he enjoyed by his own unassisted efforts.

21. At Cowhill, Alexander Key, Esq. wine merchant, London.

22. At Bonington House, Lanarkshire, Lady Ross Baillie of Lamington.

23. At Kelso, in her 90th year, Mrs Agnes Ballantyne, relict of the late Mr David Ballantyne.

24. At Woolwich, Colonel Philip Riou, only surviving brother of the late Captain Edward Riou, of the navy.

— At Glasgow, Mr Humphry Barbour, merchant, aged 74.

25. At Mrs John Weir's, North Hanover Street, Edinburgh, Mrs Euphemia Elphinston, relict of the Rev. Duncan M'Lea, minister of Inverhulin.

— In the 25th year of her age, Frances Philadelphia, daughter of the late Lieutenant-Colonel Hotham, of the Coldstream guards, and sister of the present Lord Hotham.

26. At Edinburgh, Alexander Stenhouse, Esq. M. D. much and justly regretted.

27. At Frogmore, near Windsor, after an illness of five years, Esther Jane, relict of the late Right Hon. Richard Brinsley Sheridan. Mrs S. was the youngest daughter of the late Newton Ogle, D. D. of Kirkley, in the county of Northumberland, Dean of Winchester, &c.

Lately—At Tunis, in the prime of life, the celebrated archæologist, Count Camillo Borgia.

At her house, Graham Street, Edinburgh, Mrs Cleghorn, widow of Mr Thomas Cleghorn, farmer, Turnhouse.

At Dalgetty Manse, Miss Margaret Scott, second daughter of the Rev. John Scott, minister of Dalgetty.

In Hart Street, Covent Garden, Mrs Emett, aged 80, a native of Plymouth. Her first husband, George Sutherland, served King George II. at the battle of Minden. Her two husbands and children have served their country upwards of a hundred years, chiefly in the British navy.

At Bow-wood, the seat of the Marquis of Lansdown, Mr Broad, for nearly forty years steward in the Marquis's family. Being out in the park on the day preceding, with a party of ladies and gentlemen, he found a dead adder, which he took up in his hands, and opened its mouth, to shew where the poison of the creature lay; in doing this, however, the subtile matter communicated to a cut in one of his fingers. On the next morning, Mr Broad was found dead in his bed, with every indication of his having died from the effects of the poison, the arm being much inflamed.

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